

# UAlbany

## THE ROAD TO UALBANY

From his roots as the son of Georgia sharecroppers to academe and the world stage, Robert J. Jones, Ph.D., has journeyed a long and inspiring road to his current role as the University at Albany's 19th president.



# Big Picture

UAlbany men's lacrosse kicked off 2013 with a bang, upsetting No. 13 Syracuse 16-15 in double overtime.





THE WORLD WITHIN REACH

# UAlbany

University at Albany Magazine  
Spring 2013, Volume 22, Number 1

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# From the Podium and Beyond

By Carol Olechowski

## UAlbany's RNA Institute Collaborates With Wadsworth, RPI

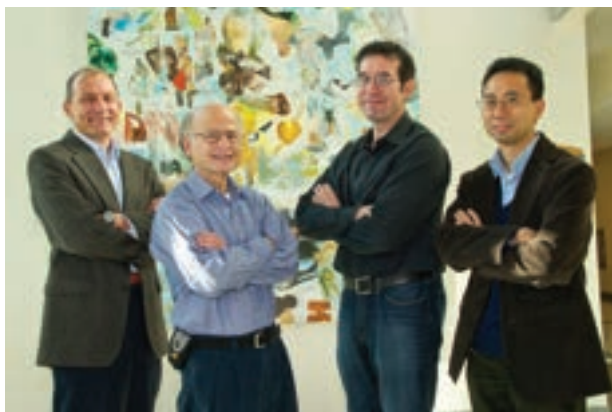
Four UAlbany researchers are working with the Wadsworth Center at the New York State Department of Health and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to advance new biomedical technologies through the RNA Institute's Interdisciplinary Pilot Research Program (IPRP).

Established in 2009, the IPRP promotes innovative and collaborative research focusing on RNA science and technology. Its overall goal is to find and fund innovative, high-impact research with the potential for leading to exter-

nal research funding or commercial applications.

UAlbany-based researchers collaborating with RPI and the Wadsworth Center are, left to right, Associate Professor of Chemistry Igor Lednev; RNA Institute Director and Professor of Biological Sciences and Chemistry Paul F. Agris; Professor of Chemistry and Biological Sciences Daniele Fabris; and Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences Pan T.X. Li.

The RNA Institute, launched in 2010, is located at UAlbany's Life Sciences Research Center.



## Castellana Begins Four-Year University Council Term



Mark Schmidt

Gov. Andrew Cuomo has appointed SEFCU President & CEO Michael J. Castellana, B.S.'84, M.B.A.'92, to a four-year term as member and chair of UAlbany's University Council. The appointment, made in February, is effective through June 30, 2017. Castellana, who serves on The

University at Albany Foundation Board of Directors and the advisory board of the University's M.B.A. Advisory Council, was instrumental in creating the Small Enterprise Economic Development (SEED) program, a partnership that links SEFCU, UAlbany and Empire State Development. He also supports many other organizations, including the Capitalize Albany Corporation, Tech Valley Connect, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Little Sisters of the Poor and St. Anne Institute.

## It's a Slam-Dunk Season for UAlbany Women's Basketball



Paul Miller

For the women's basketball team at UAlbany, this was an unprecedented season. Led by seniors Keyana Williams, Ebone Henry, Julie Forster and Lindsey Lowrie, the team went into conference play undefeated (16-0) and clinched the America East title with a 25-3 record. "We care for one another and don't want to let each other down. That's how we maintained this incredible streak," said Henry, the all-time leading scorer in UAlbany women's basketball history. Head coach Katie Abrahamson-Henderson also won high marks from the team for her hard work and encouragement. "Coach Abe is UAlbany women's basketball," noted Lowrie. "She's more than a coach; she's our mentor, a friend and an integral part of our Purple Family."

## WCDB Marks Its 35th Anniversary

Disco is long gone, but after 35 years, WCDB (90.9 FM) – “The Capital District’s Best” – still rules the airwaves at UAlbany.

The student-run radio station has been informing and entertaining the University community, and launching careers, since March 1, 1978.

(Its predecessor, WSUA, went on the air in 1963.) In the years since, thousands of UAlbany graduates who worked at both stations have moved on to successful careers. They include Brian Lehrer '73, host of “The Brian Lehrer Show” on WNYC in New York, and attorney Bill McCann '86, who has hosted “The Saturday Morning Edition of Jazz” for nearly 28 years.

WCDB’s current schedule features a variety of musical formats, including R&B, rock and inspirational; news; and sports. Special programming includes “The Social Workers,” which airs Thursdays at 9 p.m. Assisted by School of Social Welfare graduate students, nationally acclaimed talk-show host Kathryn Zox, M.S.W.'83, Your Social Worker with a Microphone®, highlights such issues as cyber bullying and organ donation.

Anniversary events included a mixer that brought students together with alumni who work in radio, music, television and social media.



Mark Schmidt



Mark Schmidt

## Rousseau Is Rockefeller College Dean

David L. Rousseau, a professor of political science at the University since 2005, has been named dean of the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy.

Rousseau, who earned a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and a master’s from Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government, “is an outstanding scholar, teacher and leader in the field of public affairs,” noted University at Albany President Robert J. Jones, who announced the appointment Feb. 6.

“I am excited to be given the opportunity to continue my work with an outstanding faculty to expand our academic offerings, increase international activities, deepen our community engagement, and support our innovative public affairs research,” Rousseau said.

For more information about these and other stories, visit us online at [www.albany.edu/news/](http://www.albany.edu/news/).

## Liberty Terrace Opens

It features permeable pavement, rain gardens, meeting spaces, exercise rooms, lounges, and laundry facilities – and space for 500 UAlbany students. It’s Liberty Terrace, an environmentally sustainable student-housing complex opened on the uptown campus in August 2012. While the complex is beautiful, it’s also “green”: Thanks to a geothermal heat pump system installed with support from a \$2.7 million U.S. Department of Energy grant, Liberty Terrace is expected to use 50 percent less energy and 45 percent less water than a comparable structure adhering to current building codes and standards.



Mark Schmidt



Mark Schmidt



Mark Schmidt



# Student Spotlight

By Vinny Reda, B.A.'74

## Dorcey Applyrs, M.P.H.'05 ~ A True Gem



School of Public Health doctoral student Dorcey Applyrs channels Mahatma Gandhi in describing her work with young African-American women in the Capital Region: "It is my way of taking part in the change I want to see."

For four years, Applyrs has been an adviser with Delta GEMS (Growing & Empowering Myself Successfully), the community-service project of the Albany Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She conducts sessions and exercises that seek to guide the 14- to 18-year-olds toward achieving their dreams.

GEMS meetings focus on "discussions of self-esteem, body image, bullying, HIV/AIDS and other issues that impact participants' mental and physical health," explained Applyrs, who earned a B.S. in psychology at Delaware State University (DSU). "Each meeting, I facilitate a 15-to-20-minute physical activity component to engage the girls in some form of exercise while promoting physical activity as a social norm. The program serves lunch and snacks, like fresh fruit, salads and yogurt, to encourage healthy eating."

Other subjects include multiculturalism and

careers. Applyrs arranged for GEMS teens and Karen girls whose families had left Burma and settled in Albany to meet and talk about culture, unity and community-service opportunities. Topics for sessions related to "grade-specific career preparation" include "résumé-writing, developing a personal statement, interviewing, and completing college applications," Applyrs said. "We have also brought in professionals to talk about the significance of a college education and best practices for climbing the career ladder."

Like the young women she advises, Applyrs has a mentor: fellow Washington, D.C., native and DSU graduate Dwight Williams. The clinical associate professor of health policy recruited Applyrs to the School of Public Health, assuring her "that he was committed to my future success, academically and professionally. His commitment has been unwavering," noted Applyrs, a 2012 Center for Women in Government and Civil Society Women in Public Policy Fellow.

Once she completes her studies, Applyrs will "pursue a position that will enable me to advocate for initiatives and policies that will improve communities' quality of life and prevent poor health outcomes, such as HIV/AIDS, obesity, diabetes, cancer and influenza."

Applyrs is married to Don-Lee Applyrs, B.A.'03, M.S.'06. The couple met at UAlbany.

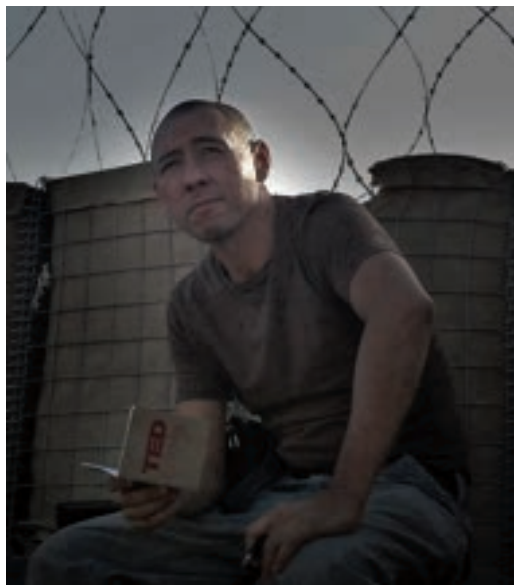


Delta GEMS participants

# Where Are They Now?

By Carol Olechowski

Award-winning photographer **Teru Kuwayama, B.A.'93** ("Activist With a Camera," Spring 2011), continues to log miles at a fast and furious rate. "I'm still living in New York City, but I'm basically bicoastal, with frequent trips to California," said the TED (Technology Entertainment and Design) Senior Fellow, who is often "on the road, attending and speaking at [the organization's] ideas conferences in Europe and the United States." In a Jan. 8 email, Kuwayama noted: "Hurricane Sandy brought my disaster work home to New York, and I just returned from Australia, where I had a series of exhibitions and projections and did a talk at the Sydney Opera House. Today, I started another stint at Stanford, as a media fellow at the Hoover Institution for War, Revolution, and Peace."



Tivadar Domaniczky

If you've ever wondered whether Lake Champlain's legendary serpent-like monster is fact or fiction, you'll want to read the most recent book from New Zealand-based author **Robert E. Bartholomew, M.A.'84** ("Champ's Biographer," Fall 2011). For *The Untold Story of Champ: A Social History of America's Loch Ness Monster* (State University of New York Press, 2012), Bartholomew explored "the lake itself and period sources and archives in an attempt to answer the ultimate question: Does Champ exist?" Although his search was "obscured by sloppy journalism, local leaders



Jamilah Bartholomew

motivated by tourism income, and bickering monster hunters," he crafted a rich, colorful story that "will fascinate believers and skeptics alike." A Whitehall, N.Y., native interested in Champ "ever since I was able to pick up a pair of binoculars and scan the lake," Bartholomew teaches history at Botany Downs Secondary College in South Auckland.

## UAlbany Magazine

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UAlbany magazine is published twice a year for alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends of the University at Albany, State University of New York. Our objective is to produce a lively, informative publication that stimulates pride and interest in UAlbany.

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Cover: In January, UAlbany welcomed its 19th president, Robert J. Jones, Ph.D., a former University of Minnesota administrator and faculty member with more than 30 years' experience in higher-education leadership and academic expertise. Well known for his working in plant physiology and in urban and international development, Jones is now committed to "building on the excellence" of UAlbany and distinguishing the University as "a leader in emerging technology and entrepreneurship."

Photo: Mark McCarty

## Gifts at Work

By Mary Fiess

Photos by Mark Schmidt

Gregory Maguire, B.A.'76

# A Wickedly

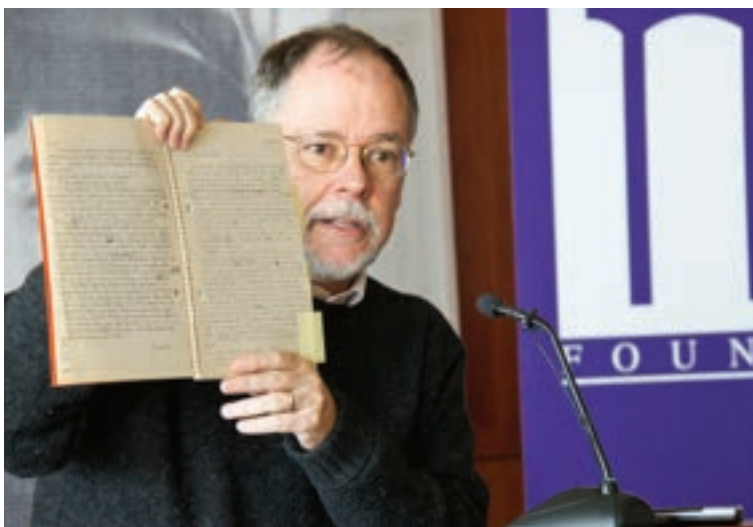
As Gregory Maguire tells it, he almost didn't graduate from the University at Albany. But the problem – namely, his many independent-study courses – is also one of the keys to his later success.

Through independent studies, UAlbany “let me spread my wings and write what I wanted and gave me credit. They made a good bet on me,” said Maguire, the best-selling author of *Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West*, which spawned the smash Broadway musical *Wicked*.

Maguire spoke about his student days when he visited campus in November 2012 to announce he was donating his papers to the University Libraries.

His personal and professional papers, manuscripts, documents, diaries and memorabilia, a collection spanning more than 50 years to date, will be stored in the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives. This collection joins the papers of Pulitzer Prize-winning author William Kennedy; Joseph Persico, B.A.'52; and Marcia Brown, B.A.'40.

Gregory Maguire displays the *Wicked* manuscript, part of the collection he donated to UAlbany last fall. Also pictured, next page, are some children's books from the collection and a handwritten page from the first draft of *Wicked*.





# Wonderful Gift



In addition, Maguire donated the collected papers of his father, celebrated Times Union columnist John Maguire, and a collection of poetry by his stepmother, Marie McAuliff Maguire.

"Gregory Maguire has made an indelible mark on American literature," said UAlbany Provost Susan Phillips. "We consider it an enormous honor that UAlbany will now preserve and safeguard his papers for the use of students, scholars and the community at large."

The collection includes such items as the spiral-bound notebook containing Maguire's handwritten first draft, dated Feb. 17, 1992, of the first chapters of *Wicked*.

"There aren't a lot of cross-outs. I tended to write fairly cleanly," Maguire noted as he displayed the notebook. He completed *Wicked* in 1993; it was published in 1995.

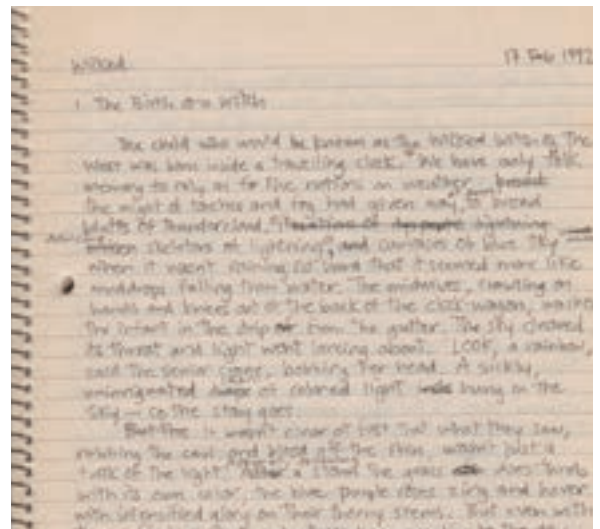
To date, the novel has sold more than five million copies. The musical has been Broadway's No. 1 hit for an unprecedented eight consecutive years and has won 35 major awards, including the Grammy and three Tonys. There are currently seven productions worldwide.

While most famous for *Wicked*, Maguire is also the author of 30 other books, including the adult novel *Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister*, the children's novels *What-The-Dickens: The Story of a Rogue Tooth Fairy* and *Leaping Beauty and Other Animal Fairy Tales*, and *The Hamlet Chronicles* series.

Maguire grew up in Albany in an Irish-Catholic family in which five of seven children became writers. "Our family was a literary ecosystem, in a sense," he said. He earned his bachelor's degree in English and studio art from UAlbany in May 1976, although there was a bit of a hitch.

"About a week after my graduation, I got a call from the registrar's office, saying that my degree was invalid because I had taken too many independent studies," Maguire recounted.

"I was, however, an early archivist, so I was able to take from my files all the signed permission forms from my professors. I was able to persuade the University, with the backing of the Board of Regents, that my degree was valid."



# Susan Hildreth, M.L.S.'73

## The Nation's Librarian

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By Jim Sciancalepore, M.A.'93

Most jobs don't require an FBI background check and confirmation by the U.S. Senate, but Susan Hildreth doesn't have a typical job.



Courtesy the Institute of Museum and Library Services

After all, she oversees a \$200 million annual budget. She and her team are responsible for supporting and advocating on behalf of thousands of museums and more than 100,000 libraries nationwide.

And she was appointed to her position by President Barack Obama.

Hildreth is director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency that helps America's museums and libraries remain relevant and vital. Her four-year appointment is a testament to her proven leadership and extensive background in the field of library science – a foundation that was formed at the University at Albany.

"I got a very good education," she said when describing her UAlbany experience. "It was definitely an important step in my career."

Hildreth has fond memories of excellent faculty members, and of being among the first students to use the then newly constructed uptown campus.

When discussing her profession, she acknowledges the rapidly changing role of librarians in an increasingly technology-empowered world. However, she believes they can still play a critical part.

"The librarian used to be a gatekeeper," Hildreth explained. "Now, we can use our knowledge and experience to be more of a navigator ... to guide people to the information, books or resources they need."

Looking back on more than three decades of work in library science, she noted that it's a very satisfying feeling to help people find what they're looking for. This is a mission Hildreth continues today, on a national scale.



# Donna McNulty Reinbolt, B.A. '83

## Survivor, Advocate, Leader

By Jim Sciancalepore, M.A.'93

Every week, people from across the country reach out to Donna McNulty Reinbolt via email, LinkedIn, Twitter and other media. They are often frightened, confused or overwhelmed, because they or their family members have been diagnosed with lymphoma, a type of blood cancer that impacts an estimated 659,000 Americans. Reinbolt takes the time to reply to each inquiry.

"It's easy to start looking too far down the road when you receive news like this," Reinbolt explained. "I try to help them take it one step, one day at a time."

She understands their feelings all too well. In 2007, the accomplished attorney and mother of two learned that she had lymphoma. Nine difficult months would follow, as Reinbolt underwent a combination of chemotherapy and radiation. Thankfully, her treatment was a success – she recently commemorated five cancer-free years. However, lymphoma wasn't just a life-altering circumstance for Reinbolt; it led her to an entirely new career.

"I began simply wanting to volunteer and give back to the lymphoma organization that had helped me so much," said Reinbolt. "But then it grew into something more."

Reinbolt would go on to found the Houston chapter of the Lymphoma Research Foundation and, more recently, she was appointed a board member at the national level. Her current job is a blend of advocacy, policy-setting and fundraising, all of which draw on Reinbolt's talents for learning and collaboration – skills she cultivated as a student at UAlbany.



Courtesy the Lymphoma Research Foundation

**"I got a great education from excellent faculty members," Reinbolt recalled of her undergraduate experience. "It's part of who I am today."**

# Changing the World

By Carol Olechowski

## "Give a year. Change the world."

Last summer, recent University at Albany graduates Alice Wong, Emily Park and Dimitri Pinnock responded to that call by committing 10 months to City Year. The program, which hires young adults who tutor and mentor students to get them "on track" for graduation, operates in 24 U.S. cities; London, England; and South Africa.

New York City native Wong provides

classroom and lunchroom support at P.S./M.S. 206 in East Harlem, assisting students with reading and writing skills and "other subjects, depending on what they are learning when I am with them." Wong, who majored in mathematics and minored in business administration at UAlbany, creates "mini" lesson plans tailored to my students' specific learning styles. I can already see little improvements when reading with one of my third-graders, and it is such a nice feeling to know that I am making a difference."

The experience has confirmed for Wong that working in education "is what I want to do. I have been able to learn different teaching techniques, as well as how to work with children with special needs by creating a bond with them and giving them a little extra attention." After completing her City Year commitment in June,

at UAlbany. He understands "firsthand" the struggles "of trying to succeed in an urban school setting. The students look up to me. I look like them, I went to a similar high school and I graduated from college, so they are always receptive to my tutoring and my advice on issues they are facing."

As role models, City Year corps members are held to strict behavioral standards: They are not permitted to smoke, swear or even chew gum. Each wears a bright-red jacket that sports the City Year logo. For Pinnock, the jacket "represents the commitment I have with this great program. I wanted to serve my community and establish a better academic experience for students by placing a high value on education and coursework, and by letting them know they can accomplish anything in the world.

Pinnock's mother "held me accountable" for schoolwork, encouraging him "to be an overachiever. She wanted me to excel, and I want my students to



## Dimitri Pinnock, B.A.'11

Wong plans to earn a master's degree and her teaching certification.

At Sheepshead Bay High School in his native Brooklyn, N.Y., Pinnock shares with about 60 freshmen "ideas and strategies" that helped him to succeed while studying history and biology

excel, also," said Pinnock, who plans to take the MCATs next summer in preparation for medical school.

City Year "has taught me to become more of a leader," he added. "I can use this skill in initiatives I set up to involve more minorities in medicine, and also in reducing health disparities around the world."





## Emily Park, B.A.'11

Park, a first-generation Korean-American from New York City, admires the 9th-graders she tutors in math, English and science at Thomas Jefferson High School in Los Angeles. "They don't have 'perfect' lives, yet they come to school every day, excited to see us and wanting to better their futures through a beautiful thing called education," observed Park, who earned a degree in sociology and psychology at UAlbany.

Jefferson students "are rising to the City Year challenge." One success story, "Juan," was formerly "late to school every day. He would fall behind on all his classwork and never complete his homework. He is never late anymore and even attends our after-school program. We motivate him, and he's proud to know that his mentors believe in and care about him," said Park, noting that City Year "has opened up my interest to studying education reform in graduate school."

Diversity is one of City Year's greatest strengths. "I have met so many people from so many different places," Wong commented. "Our different experiences with children have allowed us to bounce ideas off one another and learn from each other."

Added Park: "We are all so different, yet we work together cohesively. I know that, after this experience, we will all be able to bring the concept of teamwork and our own strengths to any fields we pursue."

For more information about City Year, visit [www.cityyear.org](http://www.cityyear.org).



## Alice Wong, B.A.'12





Dan Hart, B.S.'83

# Reaching for the Stars

By Carol Olechowski

**Dan Hart believes in reaching for the stars – literally.**

"I always wanted to be in the space program," recounts Hart, Boeing Network & Space Systems' vice president and deputy program manager for Return to Intercept, Ground-based Midcourse Defense. "In high school, I found the theory of relativity fascinating, and I liked the whole 'Star Wars'/'Star Trek'/science-fiction thing happening at the time."

In 1979, Hart enrolled at the University at Albany; "I knew a lot of kids who were going there, and the school offered a diverse selection of academics." He found the state capital "appealing. It was a metropolitan area, but not quite New York City, and far enough away" from Valley Stream, N.Y., his hometown, but near enough so that "if I had to get home, I could go on Trailways."

"Torn" between science and the arts, Hart initially studied both. Freshman year, he landed a lead role in a campus production of the 1920s comedy *Boy Meets Girl*. ("I played the boy," he jokes.) "It was an incredible experience. I did theatre in high school, but I had never been in a play where the production values and the set were so professional. We had a guest director from England. A '20s-style suit was tailored for me. At the same time, Constance Valis-Hill, the movement instructor, spent a lot of time working with me on mime, and I was incredibly grateful. I did some Shakespeare and then focused more on physics."



Hart conducted research for Distinguished Service Professor James W. Corbett, who would become his mentor. "Dr. Corbett was great. I was amazed that someone who had been all over the world and led an institute would sit and chat with a lowly junior. I told him I wanted to be an astronaut, and he said: 'Do it. There's no reason you can't.' That was energizing and inspiring."

With graduation looming, Hart "called NASA, explained I was a senior physics student at Albany and asked how to get into the space program. I wound up talking with somebody at headquarters about payloads on the space shuttle. NASA sent me a book listing companies affiliated with the space program; I checked off about 120 and sent each a letter with my résumé, unaware that the addresses were for company presidents." The responses included "a couple of encouraging phone calls," including one from McDonnell-Douglas. Hart interviewed and, "by the beginning of June, I was working at the Kennedy Space Center, at Spacelab, the first big European-American space collaborative and part of the shuttle program. I remember thinking, they don't really need to pay me for this; I'd gladly do it for nothing!"

Hart worked on Challenger in 1985 and supported Spacelab 2, "one of Challenger's last successful missions. The Challenger accident was the last shuttle launch I saw from Kennedy."

Later, at Cape Canaveral, he launched and updated "1960s- and '70s-vintage rockets," then relocated to Southern California in 1988 "to get involved in

rocket design." Hart has been engaged in "every aspect of the space program" – including systems engineering for the Delta IV rockets created in the 1990s, missile defense and satellite programs – "and all with the same company, really," since McDonnell-Douglas, Rockwell, Hughes and other companies "eventually came together with Boeing" through mergers and acquisitions.

Hart never became an astronaut but has no regrets. "I married the love of my life; I had kids. I was enjoying what I was doing. At Boeing, you're always on a mission, and every mission is important. It doesn't feel like just a job. It feels like you have a purpose, and that's great."

The critical thinking and communication skills he acquired at Albany continue to serve Hart well. "Boeing operates across the U.S. to England, China, India and Brazil. We have 170,000 people from very different disciplines – structural dynamics, controls theory, structural design, propulsion – working on aircraft and spacecraft. They have to communicate with one another, with company leadership and with the customer so everyone can understand what we're trying to accomplish and how we're solving our problems."

Hart, who travels frequently for work, also does "a little bit of college outreach. Students have a fresh outlook; it plugs you into their energy and vision. I would love to talk to some students at UAlbany."

In his free time, Hart plays the drums and guitar and reads "a lot of history. I still run, too," he adds, recalling that the latter pursuit began in college at the urging of boyhood friend and Colonial Quad roommate Randy Holloway, B.A.'83. "And my hobby, raising teenagers, is always exciting!" he laughs, adding that his kids "are both fantastic."

Talk of his children reminds Hart again of Albany, where he "played intramural soccer and 'touch' football most Saturdays, especially if it was snowy or muddy, with buddies Mike Remondino [B.S.'83] and John Beaver [B.A.'83]." At Sutter's Mill, "a short walking distance" from campus, his diet included "cheeseburgers, fries and a couple of beers for a lot of meals. Probably our favorite bar downtown was the Long Branch. WT's was great, too."

"I really enjoyed my time at the University. The attention that a couple of key professors gave me was really ..." Hart halts mid-sentence. "I get choked up thinking about it."

Hart was "one of the primary architects of the Delta IV Launch Vehicle Fleet, which includes the most powerful rocket in operation today."

In November 1983, "six months after graduation" from the University at Albany, Dan Hart supported his first launch (Spacelab 1, STS-9) from Firing Room 1 at Kennedy Space Center.



Pat Corkery

# THE ROAD TO UAlbany

BY MARY FIESS

On the wall next to Robert J. Jones' desk is a photo of him with Bishop Desmond Tutu. The story behind it tells you something about the long road that brought Jones from a boyhood on a sharecroppers' farm in Georgia to his new calling as the 19th president of the University at Albany.

That road took Jones to a Ph.D. in plant physiology, to a life as faculty member and researcher, to a role as a facilitator in Tutu's South African Education Program, and to key leadership positions at the University of Minnesota.

On Jan. 2, 2013, the road brought him to UAlbany for his first official day on the job. He was appointed by the SUNY Board of Trustees in September 2012 to succeed retiring president George M. Philip B.A.'69, M.A.'73.

"When I began my career, I had no interest in ever being a university administrator. I had no intention of being any-



thing other than the best professor, the best scientist, the best scholar I could be," Jones recalled recently.

So in 1978, he started as an assistant professor in agronomy and plant genetics at the University of Minnesota. Six years later, he was helping Tutu's education program. Then, along came one key administrative assignment after another at Minnesota. Through all those experiences, he believes he gained an ideal preparation for leading UAlbany.

"I see great opportunities ahead, and I want to bring all my passion and experience to bear in helping to move this University to the next level," said Jones.

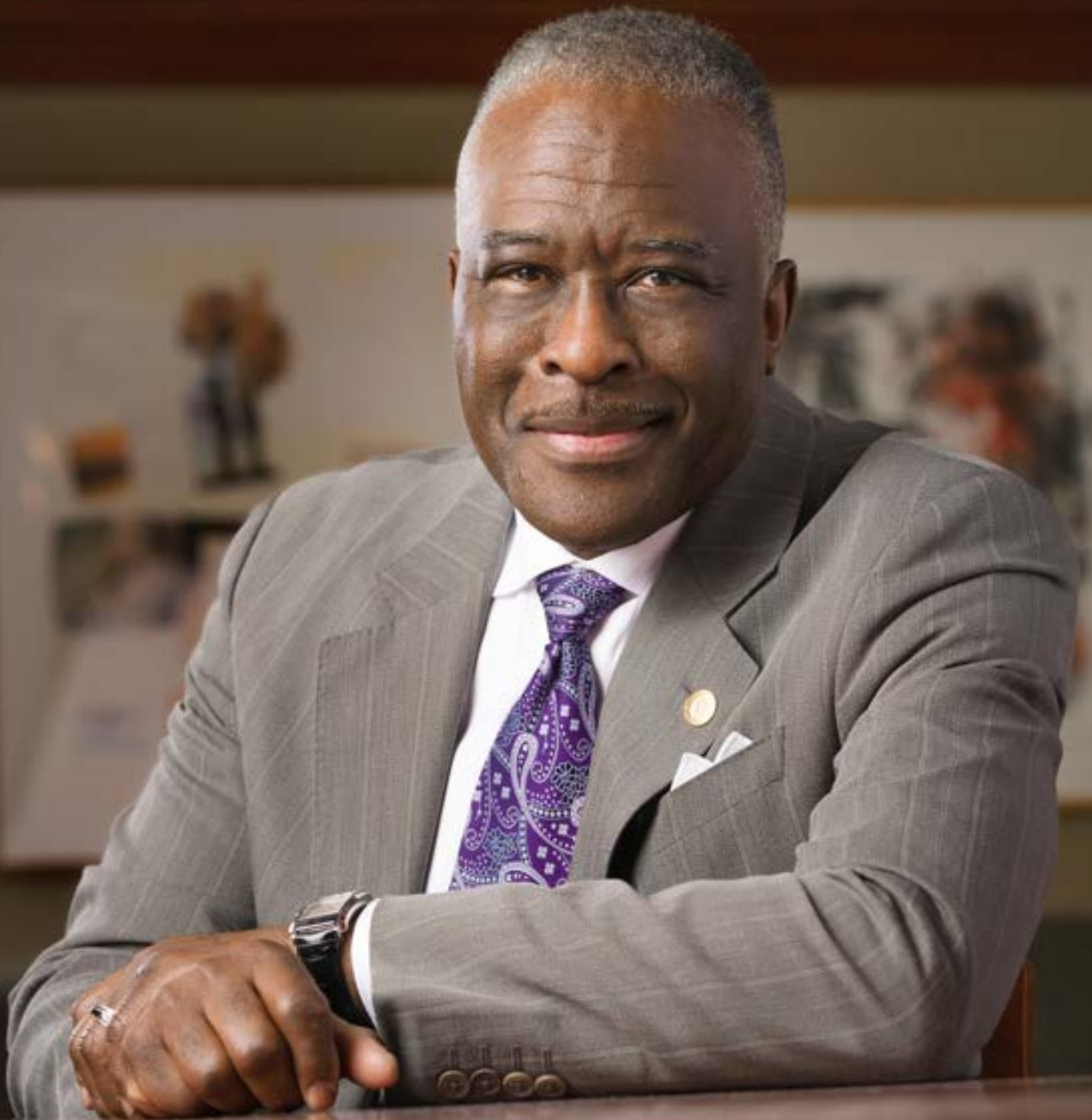
His journey began on a sharecroppers' farm in Dawson, Ga. "Most years, we could barely make enough to sustain ourselves," Jones recounted. But they grew their own food and, as a result, "we never went hungry a day in our lives."

Jones and his brother and sister also "almost never missed a day of school." At that time, children of sharecropping families sometimes missed school to help harvest the crops. But his parents insisted that their children take their studies seriously – "one of the greatest gifts" they gave him, he said.

IN 2003, BISHOP DESMOND TUTU WAS THE SPECIAL GUEST AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S GREAT CONVERSATIONS PROGRAM. THE AUDITORIUM, WITH A CAPACITY OF MORE THAN 5,400, WAS STANDING ROOM ONLY. JONES, WHO INVITED TUTU AND INTERVIEWED HIM, RECALLED THE EVENT AS "THE BEST CONVERSATION. WHEN HE'S IN THE ROOM, YOU KNOW YOU ARE IN THE PRESENCE OF AN OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL."







Robert J. Jones, Ph.D.  
19th President of  
the University at Albany

"I was always curious as a child," Jones said. "My high school vocational agriculture teacher, Walter Stallworth, started to call me 'professor' when I was in the ninth grade. He made sure I stayed on track with the math and science to get admitted to college."

At Fort Valley State University, Jones studied agronomy. "I knew it was not going to be in my future to be a farmer, but I saw a very exciting opportunity to be on the other end of that spectrum, looking at the underlying issues in food production from a scientific perspective," he said. "I took my first plant physiology class as a required course, and I fell in love with it."

JONES IS MARRIED TO DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGIST LYNN HASSAN JONES, M.D., WHOM HE INTRODUCED TO THE UALBANY COMMUNITY JAN. 23 AS "MY BETTER HALF."



"I was fortunate to have another mentor at Fort Valley: Malcolm Blunt saw potential in me and three other guys who had also graduated from high school with me. We all went on for advanced degrees."

Accepted by the University of Georgia, Jones earned his master's in crop physiology. Then, "one of the world's best plant/crop physiologists, Curtis Jerry Nelson, recruited me to come to the University of Missouri to do my doctorate. I did well enough my first year that he nominated me for the George Washington Carver Fellowship – and that made all the difference in the world in terms of my ability to pursue my degree and not have to worry about money, for the first time in my life," Jones said.

The University of Minnesota, "a forerunner in creating multidisciplinary teams of faculty to work on different crops," hired Jones to start a crop physiology program, working specifically with maize. His research ultimately focused on stabilizing yields of maize in the face of environmental stresses and global climate change as a way of increasing global food production.

Initially, his primary responsibility at Minnesota was setting up his research program, securing grants and hiring staff. He also began teaching a graduate-level plant physiology course.

Jones was pulled into his first administrative assignment at Minnesota in 1986. "The president at the time, Ken Keller, was concerned about whether our predominantly white university was doing enough to create a climate that was supportive of the high-ability students of color we were recruiting," said Jones.

Remembering the mentors who had helped him, Jones took on a part-time assignment to create and direct the first structured mentoring program for these students. It is still in operation today. "Almost 200 faculty members are involved in helping these students feel at home," said Jones. "They take the students to lunch, talk to them about their goals, maybe go to a football game together."

His service on a task force that examined the impact of the university's strategic plan on its diversity goals and objectives led, in turn, to Jones' involvement in helping to develop the university's Office for Equity and Diversity. The man with no desire to become a university administrator assumed his first full-time administrative position – assistant to the associate vice president for Multicultural Affairs and associate provost – in 1994. Three years later, Jones was





## FASCINATING FACTS

About UAlbany President Robert J. Jones

- Jones' hometown, Dawson, Ga., is best known as the largest Spanish peanut market in the world. It was also the birthplace of R&B legend Otis Redding and Washington, D.C.'s first mayor, Walter Washington.
- Jones' parents were sharecroppers who raised mainly peanuts and cotton. They also grew a little corn to feed their chickens, cows and hogs.
- He was 7 or 8 when he decided he wanted to be a scientist.

appointed vice provost for Faculty and Academic Personnel, with responsibilities for managing the university's promotion and tenure process across the entire five-campus Minnesota system.

In 2002, Jones was named vice president and executive vice provost for Faculty and Academic Programs. Starting in 2004, he served as senior vice president for Academic Administration at the University of Minnesota System.

As he assumed ever greater administrative responsibilities at Minnesota, Jones said he learned a lot from "the strongest mentor in my academic administrative life," then president (now emeritus) Robert Bruininks. An innovative, intuitive leader, Bruininks ensured that the university had "the wherewithal and resources necessary

to get things done" but was "also very committed to holding people accountable" for their responsibilities.

"He trusted me with a lot of things that could have blown up and caused both of us big trouble," Jones added. "Particularly, he charged me with going out and driving the university's urban agenda, articulating a value of the university to serve the urban community. The university had never done anything like that, and not everyone was enthusiastic about it. He provided an opportunity for me to frame the argument. The community's perception of the university was fundamentally changed.

"Bob gave me the latitude to lead and to innovate, and I hope to provide that kind of space here for my staff members."

ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE SPRING 2013 SEMESTER, JONES AND HIS WIFE TOUR THE UPTOWN CAMPUS.



## FASCINATING FACTS

About UAlbany President Robert J. Jones

- Jones studied agronomy at Fort Valley State University, a historically black college in Georgia's Peach County.
- He was one of the first five African-American students to enroll at the University of Georgia's College of Agriculture. Jones earned his master's degree in crop physiology.
- For his Ph.D. studies at the University of Missouri, Jones studied the physiology of tall fescue, a forage grass important in cattle production in Missouri.
- The University of Minnesota hired Jones, then 26, to start a crop-physiology program, specifically working with maize.

Bruininks, in turn, describes Jones as "one of the most extraordinary leaders I have met, nationally and internationally, in higher education. He has all the attributes necessary to be successful in this new and challenging era now facing higher education.

"He was frequently given the most complex and difficult problems to solve and manage to a successful conclusion. He

was asked to strengthen the international profile and especially increase the diversity of undergraduate enrollment. In 2007, we had 515 international students. In 2011, we had 2,282. Minnesota won national recognition for becoming one of the more internationally focused public universities," said Bruininks.

In managing his responsibilities across all five University of Minnesota campuses, Bruininks noted, Jones was able "to really get all parts of the Minnesota university system to work in a more integrative way, to work more productively together. Robert is a leader of considerable vision, courage, integrity. He has great management skills. He is highly inclusive in his leadership style. Diversity isn't an abstract concept – he



UALBANY FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS ENJOY AN INFORMAL CHAT WITH JONES.





AS THEY TOUR THE UPTOWN CAMPUS, JONES AND HASSAN JONES INTRODUCE THEMSELVES TO STUDENTS.

embraces diverse ideas, diverse perspectives, people from very diverse backgrounds.”

Much as he had loved his work in Minnesota, when Jones was offered the UAlbany position, he decided to accept it because of the opportunities he sees ahead to build on the University’s excellence. During a Jan. 23 tour of UAlbany’s campuses with his wife, Lynn Hassan Jones, M.D., Jones focused on “listening and learning about the points of excellence, the challenges and the opportunities” at the University.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s NY SUNY2020 plan, Jones said, is another reason he accepted the UAlbany presidency. “The plan gives us the opportunity to hire

some 180 new faculty members and increase our enrollment by more than 1,300 students. It aligns with my vision and passion about how this University needs to be a major player in driving the economic vitality of the region.

“Through our plan, and with the support of the governor, the legislature, SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher and the entire UAlbany family, we have an opportunity to leverage places where we already are excellent to distinguish this University as a leader in emerging technology and entrepreneurship. That will be one of our signature areas because it is multidisciplinary, cutting across many areas.

“Clearly, the task ahead is all about building on the excellence of this University.”



OUTGOING UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY PRESIDENT GEORGE M. PHILIP SHARES A LAUGH WITH HIS SUCCESSOR AND HASSAN JONES.

## FASCINATING FACTS

About UAlbany President Robert J. Jones

- In 1984, Jones worked on the selection committee for the South African Education Program, a scholarship program to educate black South Africans in the United States. He was recruited because “more than half of the (South African) students wanted to be scientists or engineers,” so the program sought to enlist a black American university scientist for the selection committee.
- For four or five weeks each summer until 1994, Jones visited South Africa and Namibia to “interview 1,000 or so students for about 125 to 150 slots at American universities. We educated more than 3,300 students over those 10 years, and more than 96 percent returned to South Africa. It was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.”
- From 1980 to 2009, Jones performed and toured with the Grammy Award-winning choral ensemble Sounds of Blackness. Increased responsibilities at work, however, required him to scale back his participation.

# BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS

By Carol Olechowski

## Peter Stevens, M.A.'83

A University at Albany master's degree in criminal justice helped Peter Stevens draw up a blueprint for success in the architecture field.

Stevens is president of JCJ Architecture, a prestigious firm founded in 1936. From its headquarters in Hartford, Conn., and offices in New York, Boston, Phoenix and San Diego, JCJ provides planning and design services for a wide range of justice, hospitality, education, civic and corporate projects in the United States, Latin America and the Middle East.

At Bates College, Stevens prepared for a vocation in urban ministry. His calling took an unexpected turn when he spent his junior year in Sweden, observing the country's correctional system, including Kumla, its "most secure and largest prison." Stevens noticed that inmates were

required "to work in meaningful jobs, both inside and outside the prison"; pay taxes; and support their dependents. Physical environment, family and conjugal visitations, and personal interaction between inmates and correctional staff promoted "a restorative approach" to inmate rehabilitation.

By contrast, "prison industries in the U.S. weren't real industries and didn't really provide vocational training. They made license plates and cheap furniture. Most inmates were idle, not focused on creating a better outcome after release."

After graduation, Stevens headed an educational program for challenged Appalachian children and became a regular visitor at Alderson Women's Penitentiary in West Virginia. Later at Albany, while taking classes with professors Hans Toch and David Duffee, he




"began to put the pieces together and understand what I had observed at the only women's federal prison in the U.S."

At Hindelang Center, Stevens assisted in a research project "with some of my mentors, including Kathleen Heide [M.A.'78, Ph.D.'82, now a professor of criminology at the University of South Florida]."

Stevens intended to pursue doctoral studies in criminal justice at UAlbany, but the Comprehensive Crime Control Act enacted in the 1980s impacted all aspects of the federal justice system and "affected my immediate plans." He secured a part-time position as a criminal-justice planner at The Ehrenkrantz Group in New York City and, for several months simultaneously, had a part-time research-associate's role at the Hartford Institute of Criminal and Social Justice. Stevens later worked for Rosser International until joining JCJ Architecture in 1988.







The Hartford Public Safety Complex design promotes “community use and positive interaction between the police and the public,” says the firm’s president, Peter Stevens.

Though Stevens is not an architect, he notes: “What I learned at Albany gave me a certain insight into the built environment that was not part of traditional architectural training. I enjoy addressing the corrections, judicial or public-safety issues that relate to the operational components of justice facilities. Many can lead to life-or-death situations.”

Stevens favors a direct-supervision approach to correctional management. “A less-institutional environment is more rehabilitative; it depends on the human eye and contact for oversight and communication, and to prevent situations from escalating. In contrast, indirect supervision is very custodial, relying on cameras, mouthpieces and intercom systems. There’s much less direct contact between officers and inmates.”

JCJ designs incorporate elements that will “act as catalysts for sustainable development” and advance community integration, explains Stevens. One example, the police headquarters in Middletown, Conn., provides “almost a mixed-use development, with separate

space for retail and restaurant operations. Locating a facility in the heart of a community and providing community-use spaces helps to erase the arbitrary lines between local residents and their public servants, promoting positive interaction between the police and the public.

**What I learned at Albany gave me a certain insight into the built environment that was not part of traditional architectural training.**

“The incredible range of our project experience and sensitivity to design has enabled us to develop a unique position in our industry,” Stevens adds. Recent high-profile projects include renovations of Lincoln Center’s David H. Koch Theater and the Empire State Building Observatory; adaptation of historic Aqueduct Raceway into Resorts World New York; and design services for two Navajo Nation restorative-justice complexes in Arizona and New Mexico. JCJ Architecture has worked extensively with more than 40 Native American

tribes, helping their communities “to meet their economic and self-determination goals,” says Stevens.

Design That Builds Community, JCJ’s mission statement, “drives us in our work and in our relationships with one another,” observes the third-generation Hartford native, whose family includes wife Sarah and children Matt and Julie. The firm’s emphasis on “personal and corporate involvement with the community” benefits such organizations as Habitat for Humanity, the Boys & Girls Clubs, YMCA, Connecticut FoodShare and the University of Hartford. Stevens himself, a board member of Watkinson School and the New Children’s Museum, also chairs the City of Hartford’s Pension Commission.

In 2011, “after 75 years of tightly controlled private ownership, JCJ Architecture became a 100-percent employee-owned business. We still have a board of directors,” Stevens says, “but now we have 122 owners. It’s very exciting to break ground on such a dynamic model.”

# Out and About

By Christy Doyle, M.B.A.'04

## Alumni Reception

Photos: Marty Heitner

UAlbany supporters gathered Oct. 17 for a reception at the Manhattan home of Deloitte Vice Chairman Jeffrey Black '76 and his wife, Lee Ann. Guests had an opportunity to meet Robert J. Jones, Ph.D., whose appointment as the University's 19th president had been announced weeks before.



John Fallon '77, '81, and Elizabeth Fallon chat with Jones.



Black and the president-elect pose for the camera.



## Citizen Laureate Awards Dinner

Photos: Gary Gold '70 and Mark Schmidt

SEFCU Arena was the setting Nov. 1 for the 33rd annual Citizen Laureate Awards Dinner. Thanks to support from more than 600 attendees and 60-plus sponsors, the event grossed more than \$250,000 for The University at Albany Foundation and student scholarships. Pictured, from left, are George M. Philip '69, '73, then UAlbany's 18th president; Academic Laureate Katharine Briar-Lawson, Ph.D.; Micki and Norman Massry, community laureates; and University at Albany Foundation President George R. Hearst III.

## President's Breakfast

Photos: Mark Schmidt

Mark A. Patterson '84, U.S. Department of the Treasury chief of staff, shared "Perspectives from Washington on the Year Ahead" with UAlbany students and Capital Region business leaders a Nov. 16 breakfast sponsored by Fenimore Asset Management. Here, Patterson responds to questions from students.





## Faculty/Staff Donor Reception

Photos: Mark Schmidt

Faculty and staff came out to show their love for UAlbany at a Valentine's Day reception hosted by President Robert J. Jones.



The president presents Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Studies Sue Faerman a Loyalty Society pin honoring her 25 consecutive years of UAlbany support.

Jones talks with Professor of Chemistry Eric Block and other faculty members.



## Hearst Tower Reception

Photos:

More than 150 UAlbany alumni and supporters attended a reception March 6 at the Hearst Tower in Manhattan. Hosted by University at Albany Foundation President George R. Hearst III, the reception provided a unique opportunity for guests to meet UAlbany's new president, Robert J. Jones; his wife, Lynn Hassan Jones, M.D.; and SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher.



Hearst, Hassan Jones, Jones and Zimpher enjoy the event.



Jones and Hearst pose with members of the GOLD 1844 Society.

## Winter Commencement

Photos: Mark Schmidt

For 167 years, graduates of UAlbany have been contributing to and succeeding across all fields of endeavor. At Winter Commencement ceremonies last Dec. 16, more than 1,000 graduates became a part of that proud tradition and joined a global network of more than 157,000 alumni.

The graduating class

- earned 634 undergraduate degrees and 445 graduate degrees.
- studied a wide range of subjects and earned degrees in 50 different majors ranging from psychology, sociology, accounting and communication to business administration, history, economics and biology.
- hailed from 245 cities and towns across New York, as well as from California, Arizona, Utah, Oregon and other states.
- represented countries around the world, including China, Sweden, India and Sri Lanka
- ranged in age from 20 to 59.
- included 21 military veterans.



Then-President George Philip and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Susan D. Phillips pose with honorary degree recipients Carol Gilligan and John Egan.



Families celebrate their graduates' accomplishments and U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer congratulates the new graduates.

Claudio Gomez, M.A.'09

# Helping Others to W

By Greta Petry, M.A.'01

In 2011, after Tropical Storm Irene rolled across upstate New York, University at Albany Senior Academic Adviser and Educational Opportunities Program (EOP) Counselor Claudio Gomez drove to severely flooded Schoharie County to see if his family needed help. By the time he arrived at their Middleburgh home, his mother and brother had already evacuated. Unable initially to locate them, Gomez feared they had been lost in the storm. He later learned they were safe.

When Hurricane Sandy made landfall over New York City last fall, Gomez remembered his emotional response to the storm that had affected his family 14 months earlier. Determined to assist those impacted by the October 2012

superstorm, he launched Project Sandy at UAlbany. "My initial idea," Gomez explained, "was not only to bring relief to those individuals in need, but also to spark others to take action and create their own aid efforts."

Gomez, a magna cum laude management/finance graduate who also earned a master's in liberal studies, marshaled volunteers and resources quickly. "A big percentage of the student population was involved in Project Sandy. Everyone played a major role in this initiative," he observed.

In November, Gomez and a group from UAlbany made one trip to Far Rockaway in conjunction with the Student Association, the Office of

Student Involvement & Leadership, the Department of Residential Life, and various student organizations, delivering a bus full of donated goods to makeshift shelters. At one, they witnessed people turned away because of limited space and an overabundance of certain items, such as clothing. The volunteers quickly refocused their efforts and handed out blankets, canned goods and baby formula to those in need.

For a second trip to the area last December, "we went with three buses," recounted Gomez, who came to the United States with his family 20 years ago from Colombia. "During the winter break, [student] Umaru Barrie returned to Far Rockaway to do a cleanup initiative known as Project





# Weather the Storm

Sandy 2.0. He told me the need is still there. It's sad to say, but people really think that, once you donate, everything will be fine. But the need will always be there. The rebuilding process is going to take a while."

Gomez hopes that UAlbany students will "create some type of [permanent] disaster-relief group on campus. We need a central location and an organization to address these types of issues."

From page 24, left to right: A bus is loaded for the trip to New York; Claudio Gomez, in green jacket, and other UAlbany volunteers distribute necessities to Far Rockaway residents; Stefon Wells, Cecil Belfon Jr. and Gomez take a break; Umaru Barrie is ready for Project Sandy 2.0, a cleanup effort organized during the winter break.



UAlbany's volunteer contingent poses for a photo before departing campus.



# HOME SWEET HOME

Since the 19th century, students have lived in a variety of housing while earning their degrees at UAlbany and its predecessor institutions.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, New York State Normal School and Normal College students were assigned housing approved by the principal/president and the faculty. Most women boarded with families. Men, often three or four to a room, generally lived in rooming houses.

The first sororities and fraternities, established during the same time period, soon offered new housing options, renting or purchasing homes for the use of their members. According to the 1921 Student Handbook, the Normal School had seven sororities, and six had houses. South Lake Avenue was one of the most popular housing locations, with at least 14 student homes located there from the 1920s through the '60s. Greek houses were also well represented along Madison Avenue and on Ontario, Quail and State streets. After World



Above left: The Psi Gamma house was located at 121 Lake Avenue in Albany. Above right: Newman Hall, opened on Elm Street, moved to 741 Madison Ave. by 1921. The building, which had its own chapel, would remain a home for Catholic women students until the mid-1960s.

War II, Beta Zeta Sorority and the Potter Club both had large houses on State Street.

By 1918, student housing was supplemented by Syddum Hall, a private residence originally at 390 Madison, and Newman Hall on Elm Street. The latter, which moved to 741 Madison in 1921, would remain a home for Catholic women students until the mid-1960s.

Fraternities, sororities and private groups, however, couldn't provide adequate housing for the students – a fact Abram Brubacher, president of what was by then the New York State College for Teachers (NYSCT), recognized early on. After appealing unsuccessfully to the state to build dormitories, Brubacher turned to the Alumni Association in the 1920s.

Graduates Anna E. Pierce, first dean of Women, and John Manville Sayles, who would succeed Brubacher as president, led the effort. Pierce wrote a guide advocating the instructional worth of dormitories in educating women students in values essential to future teachers and administrators.

Supported primarily by modestly paid teachers who made pledges payable in \$20 installments each Jan. 1 for five years, the fundraising endeavor raised \$600,000. A dormitory for women opened in 1935; one for male students opened six years later. Both were constructed and owned by the Alumni Association and financed through its fundraising arm, the Benevolent Association. The residences were named in 1941: the women's for Pierce; the men's for Sayles.



Sayles Hall, a men's residence, opened in 1941, just before the United States entered World War II.



The dining room at Pierce Hall featured beautiful woodwork and lighting.



A 14-year fundraising campaign financed the construction of Pierce Hall for women and a men's residence later known as Sayles Hall. Pierce Hall, above, opened in 1935, during the Great Depression.



Men and women students dressed for dinner—at least on the weekends. Here, Sayles Hall residents await dinner, which will be served in the adjacent dining room.

The buildings' interiors were splendid. Public rooms featured striking moldings, woodwork and lighting that evoked the atmosphere of English country homes. Like most student housing built before the 1990s, private rooms were Spartan, furnished with beds, desks, closet space and possibly an electrical outlet. Communal baths were located in hallways.

In 1944, the New York State Dormitory Authority was created, and the first NYSCT-owned, state-funded dorm opened in 1951 on what is now Alumni Quadrangle. Ironically, it was named for Brubacher.


With the Alumni Association's

purchase of property at Alumni Quad came housing that served as cottage dormitories until it was demolished to make way for construction of residence halls. Enrollment reached 2,500 students by the late 1950s, and the Benevolent Association and the Faculty Student Association purchased or rented buildings near the site, transforming them all into cottage dorms. The Farrell Mansion, located on the west side of Thurlow Terrace and a bequest to the school; the Cooper Mansion, which stood where the downtown campus parking lot is now located; and Van Derzee Hall at the corner of Sprague and Spring streets, were palatial. St. Mary's Park, a converted

World War II barracks across Partridge Street, provided more modest accommodations.

In 1960, then-Gov. Nelson Rockefeller decided that, owing to the excellence of its undergraduate teaching and master's programs, NYSCT would be designated one of four State University of New York University Centers. By 1970, 10,000 students were enrolled at Albany, and the purchase and rental of dorms around what would become the downtown campus continued.

In the Fall 2013 UAlbany, "Ask Geoff" will examine student housing at the University during the past 50 years.



**38** Florence Levinson has moved to be near her family. Her new address is The Gables, 299 Cambridge St., #234, Winchester, MA 01890.

**41** A note from your class counselor: Charlie Quinn is recovering in a rehab facility after blood pressure issues; his wife, Marion Duffy '42, is on the second floor of the facility, as well. Josephine Autilo Sanow was supposed to represent the Class of 1941 at our reunion, but, unfortunately, could not make it. Mim Newell continues to write her successful books. Shirley Tooker resides alone at her home in Quoque, Long Island, and is in good spirits. Herb Oksola and his wife, Ruth, now live in an independent living facility near their son in Westchester, Pa., after many years in Pittsford, Mass. Both are well. Harvey Klaus lives in New Jersey, near his daughter, and is active as can be. Janet Brusacker Mathews is living in Westford, N.Y., near one of her daughters. Helen Buzz Miller is holding her own in Deming, N.M. Your class counselor, Dr. Vincent Gillen, moved with his wife Margaret to New Bern, N.C., and resides in an independent living facility. His address is Apartment 12, McCarthy Square, New Bern, NC 28562. His email is [vpgillen@yahoo.com](mailto:vpgillen@yahoo.com), and his phone number is (252) 638-1948. This marks Vincent's 22nd consecutive year as Class of 1941 counselor. He is the only member of the class to make it onto the 20-year-or-more honor roll plaque, which is located on the second floor of the Alumni House. Please send all comments to him.

Class notes counselor: Vince Gillen, [vpgillen@yahoo.com](mailto:vpgillen@yahoo.com)

**48** A note from your class counselor: Our accomplishment for the second half of 2012 was the organization of the reunion of "The Greatest Generation" for classes from 1940 through 1949. Forty-two people attended on July 28. Former 1948 class members Isabel Cooper Baker, Roberta Van Auken Glatz, Theresa Mahoney, Wanda Tomasik Methe, Jane O'Brien, Gari Deliganis Paticopoulos, Eileen Abrams Petterson and I (Eleanor Alland) attended. Joseph Zanchelli '49 was master of ceremonies; welcome remarks were made by Canon Kay Hotaling '67, '70, president of the Alumni Association, and by George Philip '69, '73, president of the University. A short film made in the 1940s showed many aspects of the New York State College for Teachers, from our initial

interviews as prospective freshmen to many of the exciting events that took place at the college. Many pictures were taken, and people seemed anxious to say a few words about their experiences and remembrances of their years at school. The affair was most enjoyable, and the Alumni Association was so helpful that we all applauded the people who worked toward the completion of the event. Joan Sittner Sherwood sends news from Richland, Wash., that she continues with her volunteer work. She enjoyed doing an oral history of Richland; it can be found at [www.crehst.org](http://www.crehst.org). She finally turned in her VW convertible for a BMW X3. Sam Dickieson and wife Dorothy '47 celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary Dec. 21. They met at the Campus Day dance in the fall of 1946, and Sam says that he knew then that she was the girl he was going to marry. Ruth and Jim Elmore report from Orange City, Fla., about the wonderful community where they live, enjoying gourmet-type meals and meeting other friendly seniors. Last spring, they enjoyed a 24-day cruise on the northern end of the Mediterranean Sea. Ruth still continues to teach computer courses to seniors in their community. She assigns homework, but no tests. Helen Kiesel Schick reports from Long Island that her area was luckier than other parts where Hurricane Sandy blew up the coast. They were without power for the better part of the week, but a generator provided each room with some limited power. They survived without TV, phones, computers and ovens, and everyone was really thankful at Thanksgiving time. On Oct. 10, I was honored to be one of the 33 seniors from the Capital District to receive the Senior Lifetime Achievement Award for 2012. This award is given to seniors who are at least 85 years old and have volunteered in their community and contributed to society in many ways. I then traveled to Southern California in November to attend the wedding of my oldest grandson and to spend Thanksgiving with my family there. Class notes counselor: Eleanor Holbig Alland, [ealland214b@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ealland214b@nycap.rr.com)

**49** A note from your class counselor: I regret to report that two more of our classmates have passed away. Mary Odak Fowler died April 22, 2012, and Abe Trop died Sept. 7, 2012. Sympathy has been extended to both their families. Bonnie Totten Adkins and Lee continue to lead very busy lives. After just completing their move from Branson to Middlebury, they traveled to Germany and England for three weeks to visit relatives and friends and participate in a Wesley Pilgrimage





# Hey, Lee:

## What exactly does UAlbany's Alumni Association do?

Tour near Salisbury Cathedral. Upon their return home, they had a delightful visit from Joyce and Joe Zanchelli, who were exploring Middlebury for a few days during a stay at the historic Middlebury Inn. Larry Appleby was at a November Legion meeting where he was awarded the Legionnaire Award for his community service. Robertson Baker has much to be proud of: A grandson was named principal trombonist at the Conference for All-State Orchestra, two granddaughter earned the highest rating that the New York State Music Association awards, and his fourth great-grandchild was named Noah Robertson Vornier. Robertson is still contributing to the efforts of the Glens Falls Senior Center Service Club to raise money for local charities. Dolores Stocker Eklund had the opportunity to hear the Boston Pops Orchestra when it came to Long Island. She was planning a nine-day cruise to the Bahamas and the Caribbean in May. In September, we received an information-packed letter from Betty Uline Engineri. Betty said she disappeared from our class in 1948, went three summers to school, and left to teach English and social studies in Sharon Springs, N.Y. She has been married to Paul, a World War I veteran, for 63 years, and they have two sons, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Betty and Paul have traveled extensively, both in the U.S. and internationally, and have lived in or visited all 50 states. Richard Foster reports that life is still fulfilling. He is able to play the piano, sing and dance a bit, and enjoy the company of many friends in the retirement community. He has three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, all of whom live in Sarasota, except for one grandson who is in the army. Bob Kittredge and Diana had a most adventuresome trip: an 1,100-mile cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow and then to Helsinki for a four-day add-on. Bob Kloepfel continues to enjoy Thursday luncheons with his buddies Russell Bailey and Norman Powell. He says they really miss Jack Kirby, who now lives in Florida. Marjorie Fusmer McGuire, after completing her career teaching English at Linton High School in Schenectady, N.Y., retired with her husband to Johnstown, N.Y., where there are no tee times on the golf course. The McGuire's lived 40 years in Scotia, N.Y. Marjorie gave an update on three of our classmates: Jeanne Valachovic Carpenter is currently in a nursing home in Front Royal, Va., Audrey Jerue Schreiner is widowed and living in St. Louis, Mo., and Glenyce Jones Trainor is living in Boonville, N.Y., where her son is managing the funeral home once run by Glenyce and her husband. "Freddy" Laemmerzahl Miller went with her son and two grandsons on a "cultural" beer tour in Germany Dec. 27-Jan. 6. Leah Hunter Olendorf, who lives in Galway, N.Y., had a wonderful time touring Ireland for two weeks with her daughter and three grandchildren. On the tour, she

You mean you haven't read every square inch of our annual report? Well, I won't revoke your membership. By the way, did you know that we consider every alumnus a member of the Alumni Association? Well, here is your quick guide to just some of the ways we are here to create a mutually beneficial relationship between you and your University.



Last year, **5,502** alumni attended **66** events

**1,700** Alumni Career Advisers

**5,000+** alumni Likes on facebook



**12,000** UAlbany student T-shirts distributed to perpetuate school pride

**2,000** books donated by alumni and students to area school children



More than **600** prospective students met with alumni volunteers at accepted student receptions

Over **25,000** registered users on our online community



Alumni saved \$200,000+ through the Liberty Mutual partnership

The number of alums that it takes to make a difference



Please contact me at [lserravillo@albany.edu](mailto:lserravillo@albany.edu) to find out how you can stay connected. Collectively, we can make UAlbany stronger.

## Alumni News & Notes



**More than 75 football alumni returned to UAlbany for a Homecoming weekend reunion and cheered on our Great Danes at the Homecoming football game.**

had the opportunity to visit with Mary McAleese, former president of Ireland for 14 years. Leah reports that all of her grandchildren are doing a super job in classes. Four are in college, and one is in high school. She is so glad that her radiation treatments, five days a week for six weeks, are over and her hair is growing back. Jean Pulver Hague is still conducting business in Atlanta advising families regarding education options. The Hague family had a very difficult year since Karen, Jean and Merl's daughter, was very ill with Hepatitis C. However, she had a successful liver transplant and is now doing well. In late October, Anne Sulich Raser and her youngest son drove to northern California to attend a wedding reception for her oldest grandson. The wedding had been held a few weeks earlier in Cambodia. Anne lives near Los Angeles and was thrilled to watch the spaceship Endeavour being moved from Los Angeles to the science museum near the University of Southern California. Ursula Neuhaus Schiff, who lives in Sarasota, Fla., keeps busy with volunteer work, going to the theater, taking courses and tending to her husband in a skilled nursing facility. Occasionally, she dines with Dick Foster. In September,

Ursula, when visiting her two sons and five grandchildren in the San Francisco area, had a very bad experience with the flight and states that she will never fly again. She also went on a cruise with a friend to the Caribbean in December. Jerry Reisner reports that his youngest granddaughter graduated from college and passed her CPA exams. Bobbi Houck Van Tilburg and husband Gerry are now proud great-grandparents. Hurricane Sandy left the Van Tilburg home with a power outage for eight days. After the third night, they went to the Recreation Barn, where there was warmth and food. Bobbi said the only damage done was a ruined microwave oven due to the power surge. Horthy Zeilengold Schmierer, whose permanent home is Malverne, Long Island, experienced a 12-day power outage due to Hurricane Sandy. However, she was vacationing in Hawaii when the storm hit, so she lucked out. There were plenty of fallen trees in the area but no damage to her house. In October in Cape May, N.J., Joe Zanchelli and Joyce experienced a very interesting Road Scholar program concentrating on the Victorian era. Luckily, the program occurred two weeks before Hurricane Sandy demolished much

of the area. One of the gratifying highlights of the program was getting together with Ben Jackson '50 and Dave Jack '50 and their spouses. Ben, Dave and Joe were fraternity brothers, and Ben was best man at the Zanchelli wedding in 1951. Congratulations go to Dick Zeller, who in the fall of 2012 was recognized by his local historical society and at the county level for his many years of outstanding leadership and service. Dick has served as a trustee for many years and was a founding member of the group 49 years ago. Dick ended his note by stating: "I celebrated my 88th birthday on Oct. 18. I'm blessed with excellent health, which permits me to lead a pretty good life doing pretty much what I want to do and going where I want!" Our reunion planning committee is again ready to roll. A survey letter will be mailed to each class member in the spring of 2013 (it may already have arrived) to ascertain if there is sufficient interest in attending our 65th graduation anniversary in 2014. Horthy Zeilengold Schmierer tells me that she hopes there is one because she's already looking forward to it! If any of you would like to contact a classmate, but do not have an address or a

phone number, please let me know by telephone at (518) 587-4581. Thanks again for being such cooperative classmates.

Class notes counselor: Joe Zanchelli, [jjzanch@yahoo.com](mailto:jjzanch@yahoo.com)

**50** A note from your class counselor: Basil Karpiak recently was photographed with his neighbor, former New York Governor Elliot Spitzer. Joyce Dubert Everingham moved for the 12th time and came across memorabilia, including a copy of State College News from October 1947. The front page had news of the election of Rhoda Ribera as class treasurer and Audrey Koch as class song leader. There also was a copy of the words and music to College of the Empire State. Audrey Koch recently paid a visit to her co-counselor Harold (Sparky) Vaughn in Queensbury, which was a rare and special treat. A native of South Glens Falls, Sparky began his teaching at the high school there along with his mother, Isabel Winch Vaughn, a graduate of NYSCT. He was in town for the South Glens Falls Hall of Fame ceremony honoring his grandfather, Oliver Winch. While in the area, Harold had the opportunity to



Jonathan Laico '97 and daughter, Kate, deliver books collected from alumni in the Long Island area for the UA Great Danes Book Drive.



visit Tom Yole '51, who has earned a significant place in the education field in his hometown, nearby Hudson Falls. Class notes councilor: Audrey Koch Feathers, [akochfeathers@roadrunner.com](mailto:akochfeathers@roadrunner.com)

**52** A note from your class councilor: Our 60th reunion, Sept. 7-9, 2012, was a rousing success, with 31 '52-ers registered for the Sept. 8 dinner held at the Treviso Restaurant. We started the weekend Friday evening with a "meet and greet" at the Sovereign Hotel. It's always such fun to renew acquaintances and especially to greet those people who have come from afar, such as Jack Smithler, who came from Prescott, Ariz.; Jean Faville Smith from Cocoa Beach, Fla.; Al Stephenson from Ganfield Heights, Ohio; John Bowker from Coral Gables, Fla.; and Helen Pilcher Terrill from Midlothian, Va. Saturday morning, most of us were shuttled to the campus we know as "home," where we were given a tour. What changes there are to our old campus! There were several of us who opted for a guided tour of the Albany Institute of History and Art instead, and then everyone met at Husted Hall for lunch. The afternoon had us on the bus for an interesting tour of the uptown campus and then an eye-opening tour of the up-to-date cancer research center on the East Campus. Innovative work is being done there, and we will be hearing more about the results of that research. Saturday evening, we gathered at the Treviso Restaurant for a delicious meal, good fellowship, happy reminiscing and class news. Our weekend ended Sunday; after breakfast with UAlbany President George Philip, we bid our classmates a fond farewell until next time. Anyone who attended will tell you it was a time not to be missed. Anyone interested in a 62nd or 63rd? A nice, long phone call from Shirley Feinstein Rosenbaum, who still lives in West Virginia, brought us up to date on her busy life. Shirley plays the violin in a community-based orchestra; her son is a member, as well. She also participates in a strong quartet workshop, has a portfolio in public relations, and continues to substitute teach. Now there is one active lady! Bill Wiley was so sorry to miss the

reunion. He and Jane had planned to attend, but both suffered some last-minute health issues and decided prudence dictated remaining in Hilton Head. You were missed, Bill, but we will hold you to your promise of attending our next reunion. Some bad news from Don Putterman: While visiting during Thanksgiving weekend, Don missed a couple of steps, landed face first on a hardwood floor, and suffered two fractured vertebrae. He had to wear a cervical collar for six weeks. Quick healing to you, Don. He says he still owes Ken Wooster a visit. Nice emails from both Eleanor Roth and her husband Bernard, who reported in more detail on their life together since they married in 1951. Eleanor states that she and Bernard did a great deal of traveling due to his work; they spent a year in Singapore and some time in Australia. She wrote articles about most of the places they either lived in or visited. This talent has manifested itself into the authorship of novels. Eleanor's novel, *Rainbow Dust*, which has received good reviews, is now available for Barnes & Noble's Nook and available on Amazon. She's busy at work on another novel and hopes for publication in the near future. Recently, one of Eleanor's articles was included in the anthology *A Cup of Comfort for a Better World*. She tries to keep up with friends from NYSCT, including Millie Uchima, now Nakasone, who returned to Hawaii after graduating. Jane Minckler Jennings looked forward to Thanksgiving, when there would be 21 guests – all family – at dinner. Her grandson and his wife have made it their project. At the end of February, Jane, her daughter and son-in-law spent a week with her niece in Tucson. Helen Pilcher Terrill reports the happy news that she will be a great-grandmatom more times this spring. She spent Thanksgiving with her Ohio family and Christmas with her Tennessee family. Helen's son Ed, from Ohio, escorted her to the reunion, and not only did she enjoy having him there, but so did we! Let's get more sons and daughters to join us for our next reunion. Anna Morrissey Karpiak attended the reunion and reported that she is still volunteering at Hospice and is a Eucharistic minister at her church. She spent the fall of 2011 in Madrid, Spain, polishing

up her Spanish. Anna lives on Long Island and was severely impacted by Superstorm Sandy; she was, however, most grateful to those who came from near and far to help. Anna said that Texas utilities companies repaired her block, and utility workers from Colorado did her friend's. A quick note from Vickie Eddy informs us that she planned to return to Yuma, Ariz., this winter, though she spent last winter at her home in Olean, N.Y. Tom Holman had kind words to say about the reunion. "It was a great weekend with a nice balance of sightseeing, the campus, and time for catching up with dear friends. What can I say – '52 still rocks. Bet we could still put on a show!" Thankfully, Tom escaped the wrath of Sandy; he happened to be in places where the hurricane

was not. He ends his email, "So with the holidays approaching, we have much to be thankful for." Margaret Gemmell Delea would love to hear from anyone who remembers her (her address and email are in the directory you received last summer). She reports that she is still on Long Island and had her daughter visiting from Oregon to help out, as Margaret had some medical problems. Jean Faville Smith and Smitty are still cruising, having just returned from Amsterdam to Copenhagen, then to Scotland. They made not one, but two trips north – one to the reunion and one to Burlington, Vt., for the wedding of a friend's daughter. Joe Persico has yet another book coming out shortly. President Roosevelt is once again the subject, and the title is Roosevelt's

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### March

- 25** – Fairfield, Ct., Accepted Student Reception
- 26** – Framingham, Mass., Accepted Student Reception
- 27** – Long Island Accepted Student Reception
- 27** – Syracuse Accepted Student Reception
- 28** – Saddle Brook, N.J., Accepted Student Reception

### April

- 11** – Rochester, N.Y., Accepted Student Reception
- 18** – D.C. Alumni Reception With President Robert J. Jones
- 19** – Spring Stomp
- 20** – Fifth Annual Celebration of Vital Volunteers Luncheon
- 20** – Excellence Awards Gala

### May

- 3-5** – Sigma Lambda Sigma 75th Anniversary Reunion
- 18-19** – Commencement
- 23** – Boston Alumni Reception With President Robert J. Jones

### July

- 13** – UAlbany Football Alumni and Friends Golf Outing

For additional events and details, visit  
**[www.albany.edu/alumni](http://www.albany.edu/alumni)**

# Alumni Association Recognizes Outstanding Achievements

The University at Albany Alumni Association will bestow Excellence Awards on the following alumni and friends for their outstanding achievements and service. The awards will be presented at the 2013 Excellence Awards Gala on April 20.



## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Honors an alumnus or alumna for an extraordinary achievement; or honors an individual who, over the course of a decade or more, has exemplified outstanding success in a chosen profession or outstanding service to society

**Thomas Thundat, Ph.D. '87**, Professor and Canada Excellence Research Chair in Oil Sands and Molecular Engineering, University of Alberta



## CITIZEN OF THE UNIVERSITY

Recognizes an ongraduate's outstanding contributions of service, leadership or a special gift to the University

**Kamiar and Arash Alaei**, Directors, UAlbany International Academic Program, and Founders, First Triangular Clinics for HIV/AIDS, STI, Drug Addiction, Middle East

## EXCELLENCE IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Recognizes the accomplishments of an individual who has demonstrated the spirit, leadership and drive of an entrepreneur

**Louis DeSorbo, B.S. '78, M.S. '80**, President and CEO, Wercs, LTD



## OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

Recognizes early outstanding achievements in a chosen profession or field and/or service to the community by an alumnus aged 35 years or younger

**Christina Hansen, M.P.H. '09**, Program Examiner, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President



## EXCELLENCE IN ALUMNI SERVICE

Recognizes sustained leadership and service to the Alumni Association and the University by alumni

**Wendy Hale, B.S. '05**, Manager, Advisory Services, Ernst & Young LLP

**Roberta "Bobbi" Vogt, B.S. '86, M.S. '88**, Application Systems Manager, KeyBank



## EXCELLENCE IN ARTS & LETTERS

Celebrates alumni for outstanding achievements in music, literature and language, visual arts or performing arts

**Ann Mataraso, M.F.A. '02**, Artist

## EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS

Pays tribute to alumni for distinction in for-profit business

**Joan Rosenbaum Solotar, B.S. '86**, Senior Managing Director & Head of External Relations & Strategy, Blackstone

**Bill Wise, B.S. '94**, CEO, Media ocean



## EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE

Pays tribute to alumni for time volunteered to benefit a community or its nonprofit institutions

**Robert W. Lazar, M.S. '77**, Consultant, Teal Becker and Chiaramonte, CPAs, Albany; director, Sterling Bancorp (NYSE), NYC



## EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Honors alumni for extraordinary distinction in the field of education, including pre-K through post-secondary classroom teaching, school services and administration/supervision

**Peter Shea, M.S. '93, Ph.D. '98**, Associate Professor, College of Computing and Information, University at Albany

**Karen Erickson, Ph.D., M.S. '88**, David E. and Dolores J. Yoder Distinguished Professor and Director, Center for Literacy and Disability Studies, Department of Allied Health Sciences, School of Medicine, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



## BERTHA E. BRIMMER MEDAL

Celebrates alumni for excellence in teaching K-12 and for dedication to their profession

**Simeen Tabatabai, B.A. '99, M.S. '03**, Reading Teacher, Southgate Elementary School



## EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Pays tribute to alumni for distinction in science and/or technology

**Gregg Rothermel, M.S. '86**, Professor and Jensen Chair of Software Engineering, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Nebraska - Lincoln



## MAKE YOUR NOMINATION FOR 2014:

If you are interested in nominating someone for a 2014 Excellence Award, contact the Alumni Association at (518) 442-3080 or [alumni@uamail.albany.edu](mailto:alumni@uamail.albany.edu). The deadline is Oct. 21, 2013. Visit [www.albany.edu/alumni/excellenceawards.php](http://www.albany.edu/alumni/excellenceawards.php) for more details.



# Alumni News & Notes

Centurions: FDR and the Commanders He Led to Victory in World War I. Joe's books have always had excellent reviews and widespread distribution, so we look forward to his latest work. It was nice to see him and his wife at the reunion. Jeanne Seymour Earle had planned to attend the reunion, but Lyme disease laid her low at the last minute. We missed you, Jeanne. Kathryn Shirn Peet, who lives in British Columbia, remembers the good times at NYSCT and how friendly and cooperative everyone was. Kathryn couldn't graduate with us, as she was four credits short, but identifies '52 as her class. Joyce Leavitt Zanchelli very much appreciates all of you who sent news to be included in this issue of the alumni magazine. Thanks as always for your cooperation. Our sincere sympathy goes to Kitty Irons and her husband, Marty, on the loss of their son Mark.

Class notes councilor: Joyce Zanchelli, jzanch@yahoo.com

**54** A note from your class councilor: Donald Voellinger experienced a power outage from Hurricane Sandy, but passed the time reading by candlelight. Thankfully, he made it out unscathed from the storm, despite the lack of heat and electricity. Nancy Whittle-Mitchell still resides in Cambridge, N.Y., and is active in her community. She enjoys visits with Gerry Holzman and his wife, Arlene, and stays in touch with Jean Rasey-Aceto and Bill Floyd. Ken (Schoony) Schoonmaker took a tour of Istanbul, the Greek Aegean islands, Athens, Delphi and Meteora in September. Marie and John Sejersen have been keeping busy with their growing extended family. John recently celebrated 15 years since his five-way coronary bypass surgery in October. Art Stone is still running the same companies and continues to travel in his free time. John and Diane Sawyer recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by going on a cruise. Peter McManus enjoyed a trip to the Galapagos Islands and Quito, Ecuador, with a group of middle school students from Virginia in June. Pat and Stefanie Manning rented an apartment in Rome; it overlooks Santa Maria Maggiore. They returned to the states in December and spent time

with their family in January. John and Kim Parsons are enjoying life in Florida for the 22nd consecutive year and play bridge several times a week. Shirley Callahan Dillon enjoyed a river cruise last June from Paris up the Seine River. Marv Chernoff is still writing plays; his play Chaim's Love Song is still being produced 14 years after opening. Marv took a Mediterranean cruise and a Boston-to-Halifax-and-Montreal cruise last year. George Martin had the pleasure of seeing Enchanted Island, Tosca and Gotterdammerung at the Met last January. He also flew to Sarasota, Fla., with his wife, Ann, to see Vanessa; they enjoyed many productions this past year. In July, George celebrated his 80th birthday by having a cocktail party with friends and family. Corinne Valente Moxham and her husband, Roger, were saddened by the loss of their son, Patrick, May 31, 2012. Patrick fought a courageous battle with cancer for 13 years.

Class notes councilors: Bernice Gunsberg Shoobe, bshoobe@pol.net

**56** A note from your class councilor: It is with deep regret that I inform you that our classmates M. Maxine Adner Sackman and William Rock passed away May 28, 2012, and Oct. 19, 2012, respectively. Robert Levy has been living in California for many years. After teaching science and math for two years in Newcomb, he was in the computer industry in Poughkeepsie; Colorado Springs; and Santa Monica and Cupertino, Calif. He and his wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2004. For 30 years, Alan Weiner was chairperson of a 24-teacher foreign language department at Beverly Hills High School in California. He and his wife then moved to Connecticut, where Alan taught Spanish at the University of Hartford. They lived in Delray Beach, Fla., for 16 years and have now returned to Connecticut to be near family. Whitson Walter, who lives on the West Coast, is retired from a career in aerospace computing. He now volunteers with AARP Taxaide, preparing free tax returns for seniors. Whitson also spends time at a weekly homeless feeding program, coordinated by his wife at their church. Sally Doody



Poughkeepsie area alumna Nisla Rodriguez-Jaca '93, left, connected with Dr. Robert Santis '78, center, and his wife at an alumni event in September.

Hayes taught at Clarence High School in Clarence, N.Y., for six years after graduation. She has one son and three daughters; all are college graduates. Her husband is suffering from Alzheimer's and is hospitalized. Sally is at McHarrie Pointe Assisted Living in Baldwinsville, N.Y. Harlow Cushman retired in 1989 from teaching social studies, mainly in Rochester, N.Y. His wife, Sandy, retired from Kodak the same year. They now divide their time between Hamlin, N.Y., and Barefoot Bay, Fla. Phyllis Krug retired in 1990. She and Donald were married for 54 years, but he passed away in November 2008.

Phyllis spends much of her time enjoying nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. When possible, she enjoys gardening, sewing and traveling. Aileen Cochrane Dower taught in Bellmore and Syracuse and joined the Peace Corps in 1962. She went to Somalia, where she met her husband, Hal. When she returned to the United States, Aileen earned a master's degree in library science from the University of Maryland and was a librarian at the high school level, while also teaching English as a second language at a community college. Aileen and Hal spend five months in Maine each year and



More than 200 alumni, students and community members got their hearts pumping at the third annual Homecoming 5K Run.

# Alumni News & Notes

reside in Bethesda, Md. Your class counselor's oldest son, Paul, is a brigadier general in the U.S. Army Reserves. As of Nov. 16, he was put on active duty for one year and assigned to Germany. My other son, Michael, is the EMS (emergency medical service) administrator for the LaGrange Fire Department in Dutchess County, and my daughter Barbara is the office manager of a playschool in Highland, N.Y. Class notes counselor: Vivian Benenati, TomVivian@aol.com

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A note from your class

councilor: It was so good to be together with many classmates at our October reunion. Who could believe we graduated 55 years ago? We shared lots of good news and not so good news over drinks and dinner. We were pleased to share news from those who couldn't attend. Many thanks to Ben Lindeman and his committee for making all the arrangements. While many were able to drive to Albany, others came from quite a distance. Bev McIntyre and Bob Havilland flew up from Florida, and Beth Beehler Stefano from Las Vegas. Bob and Pat Ruess and

Dorrie Vradenburg and Bill Miller were among those who came from out of state. Matt Ostoyich thanked all who have participated in our Honoring Our Professors project at the University Library. Dick Feldman helped us remember highlights from our Albany days, and Bob Ruess helped us remember those who are no longer with us. Rosemary Stauble Brown is president-elect of the National Association of Women's Clubs. Paul Bertan is still living in Camillus and teaching chemistry part time at Onondaga Community College. He also spends time as a pilot on Camillus Erie Canal. Betty Sigety Leidigh sends regards from central Florida and was sorry she could not attend the reunion. John Rookwood says 'hi' from Rhode Island. Marilyn Stilwell Dakin recently traveled to Italy. Paula Segal Lehrer Shulak has been living in Arizona for quite some time; she's still very active in community theater. Gayle Jacobson Fishkin lives in Antelope, Calif., near her grandchildren. Sara Jane Sidge Duffy Willsey and Chuck live in Arizona; unfortunately, Chuck is no longer able to travel. Anne Marie Persico [Annabelle Townson] lives in La Quinta, Calif. She had volunteered for the Peace Corps from 2001 until 2003 and later worked at its agency headquarters. Mary Furner teaches at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Mary Stowell Hilderbrand lives in Sun City Center, Fla. Matt Ostoyich and Sandy still summer in New York, but winter in Sarasota, Fla. Another Floridian is Marie Calao Eisele. June Frankland Baker still lives in Richland, Wash., and continues with her poetry writing. Emil Polak continues his daily trek to Butler Library on the Columbia campus in New York to work on Volume II of his Latin manuscript. We'd love to hear from more of you and share your doings with our classmates. Class Notes Councilor: Ben Lindeman, bhlind@aol.com

healthy and happy. Charlotte Brown Fauth and her husband are part of a committee to plan a cruise to the United Kingdom next year. They did a pre-cruise inspection trip to that area this past year. So far, they have more than 50 couples going on the Regent Seven Seas for a combination sightseeing and golf vacation. Charlotte celebrated her milestone 75th birthday last year; she congratulates all those who also celebrated their 75th birthdays. Lynn Becraft Schmidt lost her husband this past July. She currently divides her time between The Villages, Fla., and Paradox Lake in the Adirondacks; she also visits her children in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., Connecticut and Brooklyn. Ronald Short recently celebrated his wedding anniversary with a family reunion in Orlando. They rented a house that held all 12 family members. Ron and his wife enjoy their home on Crystal Lake in Florida and their timeshare on the beach. (See "Authors & Editors" on page 44.) Harold James Owen recently retired as president of Piedmont Community College in Roxboro, N.C. The college board of trustees recognized his 22 years of service by awarding him the title of president emeritus. The governor inducted him into the Order of the Longleaf Pine, the highest recognition given to citizens of North Carolina. Bill Hershfield retired as a counselor/administrator in 1991 and has been married to Myra for more than 52 years now. Bill has been living in Port Orange, Fla., for the past 21 years. He also has enjoyed many years of travel and good books and was a captain of the Yorktown Ambulance Corps for a number of years. Bob and Annie Dallow recently returned from three wonderful weeks in Australia and New Zealand. They're completing the construction of their holiday village of more than 200 little miniature Christmas buildings. Sandy Kobrin Goldstein had to replace her roof after Hurricane Sandy blew it off, but she made it through without other damages. Aside from that, she is still busy with organizations. Sandy enjoys spending time with her grandchildren and is planning a trip to Disney World with them this spring. Miriam Sanderson Russell presented a paper, Facilitating Critical Thinking in Online College Courses, in London last July at the

## How can U help make UAlbany stronger? VOLUNTEER

*Make a Difference. Change UAlbany. Change the World.*

- Become a board member or join a board committee.
- Plan a class or affinity reunion with the alumni staff.
- Serve as an Admissions ambassador. Represent UAlbany at college fairs and accepted student receptions or call prospective students.
- Become a UCAN career advisor.
- Become a regional volunteer.
- Assist alumni staff with Homecoming, Big Purple Growl, Commencement, Campus Clean-Up Day and other events.

To find out more about volunteering, call 1-800-836-2586 or visit

[www.albany.edu/alumni/volunteeropportunities.php](http://www.albany.edu/alumni/volunteeropportunities.php).



UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Save the Date: **APRIL 20, 2013**  
Fifth Annual Celebration of Vital Volunteers

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Mary Lou Cinque Hart and the village where she lives were unfortunately hit by Hurricane Sandy this past October. Her car was wrecked, but she kindly housed family and friends during this difficult time. Aside from that, she is reasonably



UAlbany alumni gathered with family and friends at the 16th Annual Big Purple Growl & Ferocious Feast.



17th Annual International Conference on Learning.

Class councilor: Miriam Russell, [msrussell38@gmail.com](mailto:msrussell38@gmail.com)

**61** Minerva Janet Woodward Beardsley has lost 55 pounds over the past year. Elaine Romatowski Frankonis lives in East Longmeadow, Mass., with her daughter, son-in-law and grandson. She volunteers with memory debilitated patients at a local geriatric center, but spends most of her time combining fabric and yarn for various purposes. Recently, she designed and made brightly colored bags to hang on walker and wheelchair bars. She still occasionally blogs at [www.kalilily.net](http://www.kalilily.net), but mostly she vents her frustrations over the world's frightening absurdities on Facebook. Elaine also continues to look for paid employment in Portland, Ore. LaRae Atwood Groves and her husband, Gene, are currently living in Anchorage, Alaska, where they have been since 1961. She taught secondary school for 28 years and has been retired for about 20 years. Each summer, LaRae and Gene catch about 60 or 70 red salmon and also go on halibut charters. In addition, LaRae enjoys going gold mining and bought a condo in Scottsdale, Ariz, two years ago; she and Gene stay there three months a year, during the winter. LaRae would like to say hello to everyone, and she thanks

all who worked hard on the reunion. Joan Heywood Valesente moved this past year to 21 Oyster Landing Lane, Hilton Head Island, S.C. 29928. She and her husband, Bob, now live in a town home overlooking the marsh and fabulous sunsets. Joan and Bob enjoyed their 50th reunion and also made it to Bob's 50th reunion at Ithaca College last year. Mel Horowitz started vacationing more this year, using 12 weeks of timeshares by enjoying Florida; Ireland (for Sissy's 65th birthday; they met some of her relatives for the first time); Las Vegas; Maine (the beautiful coast and mountains near New Hampshire); and the Berkshires in Massachusetts, where they love attending concerts and events at Williams College. Bob Congemi is in his 52nd year of teaching and 48th year as a college professor. He will be publishing his eighth book shortly and is enjoying 2012-13 as a recipient of a Scholar Across the College SUNY award. Toby Geduld Sabian was sorry to miss the reunion, but was in northwestern China on his third trip to that fascinating country. Rosemary Kverek is living in Charlestown, Mass., in the house built for the man who gave Paul Revere his horse for the famous ride. The man's name was Deacon John Larkin, and the original house was burned down by the British. This "new" house was built in 1793. Rosemary has always loved history and is now writing a children's book

about Boston and volunteering at a local elementary school. She retired a few years ago as a real estate company co-owner and is now on four boards of directors. Rosemary notes that it is fun giving back to the community, but sometimes it is overwhelming when all the boards are busy at the same time. Earlier this fall, Marcia Marion Bailey, Gail Kasparian D'Onofrio, Judy Kiehle, Joanne Simons LaFay and Rosemary went for a week's vacation to Lake Placid, N.Y. They had a wonderful trip, and it was fun thinking of all that has happened since they first met in August 1957.

Class councilor: Mel Horowitz, [melandsis@yahoo.com](mailto:melandsis@yahoo.com)

**62** A note from your class councilor: The 50th reunion bash was wonderful; we had a good turnout, and it was a joyful weekend. Thanks to Alumni House liaison representative Loida Vera Cruz for her unending assistance. Class councilors Sheril Joan McCormack, Helen Arcuri-Stoloff and Robert Sweeney thank attendees for the spirit decors that permeated all the events. Please remember to pay your class dues and

make a special donation to the class project. Gene Altman has retired as president of Tech Rentals and is doing marking/management consulting for small businesses. Shelley Gruber-Karp, Doris Edelstein-Hirschorn, Linda Levinson-Kessler and Sue Byron-Wallace are looking forward to another winter in Florida, where they live and walk away from one another and meet daily.

Class notes councilor: J. Sheril McCormack, [vanillastar202@yahoo.com](mailto:vanillastar202@yahoo.com)

**63** A note from your class councilor: We are finalizing plans for our 50th reunion, which will be held in conjunction with the University's Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 18-20. We are hoping to exceed the 50 alumni who attended the 35th reunion in 1998. Many of the same alumni are planning to attend. Steve Condojani (president of the Student Association/Kappa Beta) is expected and will handle inquiries in the New Hampshire area. His email is [ssconda@earthlink.net](mailto:ssconda@earthlink.net). In Ohio, taking time out from seven grandkids is Mary Lou Eismann Coleman (State Fair/Kappa Delta). Her phone number is

## John Troiano, B.A.'83

Last fall, globetrotting alumnus John P. Troiano, who was profiled in the Winter 2008 *UAlbany* ("Man of Adventure"), took another exciting trip: a two-week visit to Kathmandu. Pictured here second from left, Troiano and three of his friends – including Nate Harris, second from right – "trekked for five days. The [other] men in the picture are called 'sadhus'; the place we were visiting is Pashupatinath, which is outside Kathmandu."

Troiano and his fellow tourists "have all been married about 20 years or longer, and I joke that our wives, at this point, encourage us to go away on these types of excursions!" The senior vice president and branch manager of Troiano Wealth Advisory Group in Portsmouth, N.H., likes "to get out of the office every now and then," and wishes more people were "able to visit other countries and experience different cultures. They would find that the majority of people are peaceful and kind."





## Leila Moore, Ed.D.'75 Getting It Right

When Leila Moore recalls her days at the University of Albany, her thoughts turn to her mentor and adviser, the late Arthur A. Hitchcock. The professor of education, who served for more than a decade as executive director of the American Personnel and Guidance Association, “would tell us, ‘Get it right,’” remembers Moore. “That was his philosophy: Anybody can learn, given the right environment and the right connections.”

At the University, Moore also discovered that “learning is a partnership. The chemistry in the classroom – the good friends I made, and my good teachers – helped me. Albany has education right.”

As both administrator and educator, Moore built an impressive career at several institutions, including UAlbany, Penn State, The College of Saint Rose, Bowling Green, the University of New Hampshire and Salem State. Retired from both UNH and Salem State, she is now vice president at William Spelman Executive Search. Moore enjoys traveling and painting with her partner, psychotherapist, licensed clinical social worker and Salem State University visiting assistant professor Deborah Hamilton.

Because Moore’s connections with Albany “made me want to give back,” she and Hamilton are leaving a bequest to UAlbany. The Somersworth, N.H., residents are still thinking about the specifics of the planned gift, but Hamilton said they would “love to see older students and single moms get the support they need.”

– Carol Olechowski

(614) 557-3698. Geri Schleifer Gutweniger (MYSKANIA/Kappa Delta), who toggles between Hilton Head, S.C., Colorado and now Brooklyn, where she has a new granddaughter, will field inquiries from the Carolinas. Her email is ggutweniger@hotmail.com. Also expected to join us from Connecticut is Pat Woinoski Olechna (Psi Gamma/MYSKANIA); she can be reached at waltpto@aol.com.ct. All the way from Texas, and handling questions from the Southwest, is Connie Culver Brown (Phi Delta/MYSKANIA). Her email address is singngrand@embarqmail.com. And, working with your councilor, Pete Fisher (senior class V.P./Who’s Who/SLS), will be local politico Doris Muhlich Davis (Kappa Delta), networking New York’s Capital Region. Her email is dorisjim@nycap.rr.com. Joan Arcuri Santili (santijoa@hotmail.com) is helping to line up Chi Sigma Theta alums, and Dr. Gary Penfield (Potter/MYSKANIA) is planning to attend. Gary still teaches at Rhodels Island College (gpenfield@ric.edu). If you read this note and are not on the UAlbany mailing list, please contact anyone listed and we will see that you get reunion information. Class councilor: Peter Fisher, petersfisher@yahoo.com

**67** Catherine Krautter Schmidt is vice president and co-owner of Schmidt Equipment Inc. in Geneva, Ohio. She taught biology at Quinsigamond Community College in Wooster, Mass., one year and substituted at high schools in Connecticut and Ohio while raising two daughters and a son. None are interested in continuing a second-generation, family-owned steel-fabrication business, so retirement plans are being made. Catherine enjoys visiting family in Cincinnati and a grandson in Portsmouth, Va., and watching sunset on Lake Erie. She and her husband plan to continue serving on boards of church and community organizations. Catherine is interested in finding out if any plans for gatherings of the Class of ‘67 or the biology majors of ‘67 are being made.

**68** Ted Avgerinos has retired from being a public school administrator from the Schalmont Central School District in Schenectady County, N.Y., and has since become involved with a nonprofit group called Building Minds in Sudan. Ted is currently on its board of directors. This past January, he had the opportunity to travel to South Sudan to help oversee the construction of the organization’s first school building in Mayen-Abun. Ted also has created a travel blog of his journey that can be seen at [www.buildingmindsinsudan.org](http://www.buildingmindsinsudan.org); just click on the travel blog tab.



**71** Thomas Lickona has received an honorary doctorate from the Universidad Anahuac Mexico. The degree of Doctor Honoris Causa (Honorary Doctor of a Cause), Anahuac University’s highest academic recognition, was presented last March during a ceremony at the institution’s Mexico City campus. He is one of only six individuals to receive the honor in the university’s history. Thomas retired from the college in August after 40 years as a professor of childhood/early childhood education, but continues to direct SUNY Cortland’s Center for the 4th and 5th R’s (respect and responsibility). Charles Eames Jr. has been retired from the library field for 10 years and lives in Waycross, Ga. He has written two collections of essays: No Complaints Yet and Stories to Tell. Charles is very active in his community and serves as president of the auxiliary of Mayo Clinic Health System in Waycross. In addition, he reads stories to more than 300 pre-K children every week, leads the singing at a local nursing home and is on several



*Sallie (Penny) Chisholm Ph.D. '74 was one of 23 U.S. scientists to receive the Medal of Science from President Obama at the White House Feb. 1. She was recognized for her revolutionary work in oceanography. Chisholm is a distinguished biological oceanographer whose studies of the dominant photosynthetic organisms in the sea have revolutionized scientists' understanding of life in the world's oceans.*



boards. Charles also is a lay minister in his church, Disciples of Christ. He would love to hear from anyone who remembers him or who might remember his mother, Harriet Eames, who worked at the SUNY library until the early '70s.

**72** Martis Jones is the first woman in the South to assume her position as a suffragan bishop. She is licensed and ordained through completion of seminary at Aeon Bible College, Indianapolis, Ind. Her passions lie in public policy, improving the quality of life for women, children and ministry. She also is the executive director of the Academic Distinction Fund, which acts as a vehicle for private sector investment in advancing public education and is a major collaborator among schools, businesses and her community. Class counselor: Rick Corcione: rickcorcione@yahoo.com.

**74** John Simson has been named of counsel to Lommen, Abdo, Cole, King & Stageberg. John has re-established a law practice in Washington, D.C., where he most recently served as the founding executive director of SoundExchange, the performing rights organization formed to collect digital-performance royalties for recording artists and sound-recording copyright owners. John has spent his entire professional career in the music industry.

**76** Ronald Winter was elected by the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity as chairman of the board at its recent 59th biennial convention in Scottsdale, Ariz. He will serve a two-year term.

**77** Andrew Ross has joined Cozen O'Connor's Corporate Practice Group in New York as a corporate, business and securities attorney. His extensive experience in corporate and financial matters includes venture capital and emerging growth. Andrew



Andrew Ross

also will play a key role as the firm continues to expand its China practice. He was formerly a partner with Loeb & Loeb in New York and chair of that firm's national mergers and

acquisitions group. Andrew also works with Chinese law firms, investment banks and Chinese professionalists to assist Chinese companies engaging in acquisitions and investment in the United States. He has spoken and published extensively on the subject in both China and the United States. Sharon Elswit, currently a school librarian at Léman Manhattan Preparatory School, is the author of The East Asian Story Finder, a bibliographic guide published by McFarland in 2009.

**78** Karen Graham has joined the board of directors of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM). She is also a professor of mathematics and director of the Joan and James Leitzel Center for Mathematics, Science and Engineering Education at the University of New Hampshire. Karen has been the lead author of Focus in High School Mathematics: Reasoning and Sense Making in Algebra (2010), chair and member of the Nominations and Elections Committee, and co-editor of the "Connecting Research to Teaching" section of Mathematics Teacher. She also was an author of NCTM's A History of School Mathematics, Volume

2, published in 2003. Jonathan Berman and Yasmin McMillan were married on Jan. 7, 2012, in Manhattan. Guests included Carol Berman MacDonald '82, Thomas D'Apice '77, Kenneth Paulo '78, Ivy Peltz '79, Greg Weiss '78, Debbie Ovetzky Weiss '79, and Mitchell Sandler '78. Jon has practiced law in Manhattan for more than 30 years.

**79** Tanya Harvey recently joined the Washington, D.C., office of law firm Loeb & Loeb. She concentrates her practice on estate planning and probate. She is especially adept with issues involving individuals with disabilities and special needs trusts, in light of her significant experience in special education law. She also has experience providing estate-planning counsel to non-traditional families and the LGBT community. She received her J.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Andrew Thaler has been selected as one of the New York – Metro area 2012 Super Lawyers top attorneys for his excellence in bankruptcy and creditor/debtor rights. Only 5 percent of the state's lawyers are recognized with this honor by

their peers and this professional organization. Andrew was rated "AV Preeminent" by Martindale-Hubbell and L.I. Pulse Magazine as one of the region's "Top Legal Eagles" for three consecutive years. The lending arm of AloStar Bank of Commerce, AloStar Business Credit, has hired Richard Bochicchio as a managing director to help provide capital to small and mid-sized companies. Previously, Richard was managing director and co-founder of Seaward Partners LLC in Stamford, Conn. Richard has more than 30 years' experience in business development and relationship cultivation in the junior capital/commercial finance/commercial banking field, working for both large banks and boutique firms. He will help open a new office for AloStar Business Credit in Manhattan.

**80** Lisa Spiegel recently was honored by Chambers USA for her legal work with Duane Morris LLP. She currently works in San Francisco and is an immigration attorney. Jeanne




# Homecoming and Family Weekend

Oct. 18-20

Save the date for the biggest annual gathering at UAlbany. Bring your Great Danes spirit and enjoy festivities for the whole family, including tailgate party, reunion events, kids' activities and football!

# Alumni News & Notes




**COME MEET OUR  
NEW PRESIDENT**

The University at Albany Alumni Association  
cordially invites you to meet the  
19th president of the University at Albany,  
Robert J. Jones, Ph.D.

Ft. Lauderdale: March 19  
Washington, D.C.: April 18  
Boston: May 23

Visit [www.albany.edu/alumni/events.php](http://www.albany.edu/alumni/events.php) to see  
when Dr. Jones will be in your city.

 **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY State University of New York

(Jay) Marie Perdue received the Society of Petroleum Engineers' Distinguished Service Award, an honor that also made Jeanne an SPE Distinguished Member. The



award recognizes contributions to the society that exhibit exceptional devotion of time, effort, thought and action. Jeanne currently is a technical writer for Occidental Petroleum. Kevin O'Connor would like to note that his father was a microbiologist at Sterling-Winthrop Research Institute in Rensselaer, now the home of UAlbany's School

of Public Health. Kevin, who currently works in the public health industry for the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, is touched that his father's old facility is now part of his alma mater. Ellen Brotman was sworn in as a member of the board of directors of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) at its annual board and membership meeting in San Francisco this past July. Ellen's practice focuses on government investigations, white-collar criminal defense and representation of attorneys before the Disciplinary Board of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. She also serves on the Editorial Advisory Board of The Champion and on the executive committee of the Federal Bar Association's Criminal Law Committee, and co-chairs the American Bar Association's White Collar Crime Subcommittee on Tax Fraud. Mary Mullin recently was recognized on the America's Top 100 Women Advisors list, published in the June 4 edition of Barron's magazine. Mary was ranked as the top woman advisor in Boston and has been recognized on this list several



UAlbany alumni and future alumni gather at a party before the Siena vs. Albany basketball game. Go, Great Danes!

years in a row. She is a managing director-wealth management and a wealth management advisor in Boston with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management. Michael Amoroso has joined Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman, LLP, as an associate in the real estate, land use and zoning practice groups. He is based in the Hauppauge office. Michael Prior to joining the firm, Michael was the bureau chief of the Suffolk County Department of Law's Real Estate and Condemnation Bureau for six years.

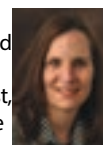


Michael Amoroso

**81** Jay Cohen recently was honored by Chambers USA for his legal work with Duane Morris LLP. He currently works in Baltimore, where he is a corporate/mergers and acquisitions attorney.

**83** L.A. Pomeroy (née Lisa Sokolowski) was named best freelance equestrian journalist, print and online, for the second consecutive year by American Horse Publications for "Hats Off for the Horses," her profile of Cape Cod milliner Sally Steinman/Maggie Mae Designs. L.A., a contributing equestrian fashion and lifestyle editor for the nation's leading horse-industry publications, including Desert Mirage, Elite Equestrian and Today's Equestrian, is also a copywriter for Breyer Animal Creations.

**84** Shawn Gregory has joined Newton Savings Bank as vice president and senior commercial lender. She will be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day commercial lending functions for the bank. Shawn has held the position of commercial lending vice president at a local bank in Danbury for the past eight years. Maria Rosa recently was elected Justice of the Supreme Court in New York's 9th Judicial District. Nicholas Stirling has been appointed superintendent of schools in the Valley Stream, N.Y. Union Free School District 30. He was the former assistant superintendent for curriculum in the Port Washington School District. Deborah Doxey took office as a new section chair of the New York State Bar Association on June 1. Her practice in



Mary Mullin





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that lasts a lifetime.



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# Alumni News & Notes



More than 120 business students and alumni attended the 5th Annual Network NYC over the winter break.

areas of banking and commercial lending includes secured transactions, asset-based finance, acquisition financing and commercial real estate transactions. Lisa Kobrynski is on the faculty at the Emory University School of Medicine and has received a Marcus Professorship in Immunology. Anationally known expert on newborn screening for congenital immune deficiency, she is also a guest researcher at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Ga. Richard Joslin, attorney for Collins, Einhorn, Farrell & Ulanoff P.C., has been promoted to partner. For 20 years, he has served as lead defense counsel in hundreds of cases in both state and federal court. In addition to defending medical malpractice actions, Richard maintains an active practice in all areas of professional liability defense, including the defense of



Richard Joslin

lawyers, insurance agents and design professionals.

**85** Michael Schiff was welcomed by Glenmede as a business development manager in its Princeton N.J., office. He is responsible for the development of new and continuing relationships with high-net-worth individuals and families, as well as endowment, foundation and tax-exempt entities. Glenmede is an independent investment and wealth management firm. David Reich has been named director of technology strategy for Nuance Communications in Burlington, Mass. Dona Parker is a board member of the University at Albany Interfaith Center at Chapel House. Recently, the name of Chapel House was changed to Interfaith Center at Chapel House, which more accurately describes its mission. The center now offers a newly created



Michael Schiff

space and resources for meditation and contemplation.

Class councilor: Patty Salkin, psalk@albany.edu

**86** Elisabeth Doyle is now an attorney and writer living and working in Washington, D.C. She has briefed/argued cases in the New Jersey Appellate and Supreme Courts and the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit; Elisabeth also has contributed to a brief to the United States Supreme Court. In addition, Elisabeth has served as a deputy attorney general for the State of New Jersey and worked in a private Washington law firm. Her first collection of short fiction, *War Stories*, was published in September.

**89** Mark Kotzin has graduated from the prestigious and highly selective Leadership Greater Syracuse program after a year of classes and coursework. Since graduating from UAlbany, he has worked as the Central Region communications specialist and spokesperson for the labor union, CSEA. Recently, CSEA's president chose Mark as one of a select group of union staff to serve on a new statewide Strategic Messaging Advisory Council. Mark, a volunteer in his community, serves on the board of trustees at Temple Concord in Syracuse, where he coordinates the annual blood drive. He also serves as a volunteer and host family member with the Syracuse Chapter of Project Children. In 2008, Mark was chosen by his colleagues to receive the Kim Hytko Memorial Award, presented



Mike Kotzin

annually to a CSEA staff member who exemplifies generosity and dedication to family, friends and co-workers.

**90** Dave Wick is the executive director of the Lake George Park Commission. He is responsible for day-to-day operations of the commission, as well as for dock and boat registrations for the roughly 16,000 vessels using the lake each season. The commission is also accountable for weighing invasive-species rule that impose control on boat launches. Dave started at the commission last March, after working the previous 19 years as manager of the Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District.

**91** Joseph Bavaro recently was named to the New York Super Lawyer List. Currently a partner at Salenger, Sack, Kimmel & Bavaro LLP (SSB&K), Joseph represents plaintiffs in personal injury cases and has been named to the list each year since 2009. The Super Lawyer designation is awarded to the top 5 percent of outstanding attorneys in New York State who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. Kim Brackin coached Kirsty Coventry of Zimbabwe in the 2012 Olympics. After graduating from UAlbany, Kim was the head swim coach of Auburn University and University of Texas Austin for six years. She currently is a mentor to pre-college high school seniors and also works with triathletes and Masters swimmers. Stephen Schafer, director of finance and controller at the State University of New York's system-wide Construction Fund, has been named controller and associate vice president at Lafayette College. Prior to his appointment at SUNY, Schafer served as director of finance and business services at The Sage Colleges in New York for five years. Kelly Bates has been recognized by The Boston Globe for promoting diversity in Massachusetts. For the past five years, as executive director of the nonpartisan Access Strategies Fund, she has had a hand in diversifying the pool of potential



Joseph Bavaro



## Are you a Five Quad alum?

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Saturday, April 27, 2013

UAlbany Campus & Albany Hilton

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with your updated mailing address!



candidates for government service. Kelly began her career in the 1990s with Women's Statewide Legislative Network and has worked as a diversity consultant for Fortune 500 companies, government agencies and nonprofits. Paul Melander has been added to the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) board of directors in Pittsburgh, Pa. CASA's mission is to ensure that every child has a safe, supportive and permanent home by providing volunteer advocacy.



Paul Melander

**92** Gregory Hitchcock has been working on his blog, The Press Matters. He uses this Website (<http://thepressmatters.blogspot.com>) to discuss his views on journalism, mental illness and seeking the truth from a reporter's perspective. Sean Rickert was appointed superintendent of schools for the Pima, Ariz., school district. Previously, he taught for seven years in rural Arizona and was the director of an alternative high school in St. Johns, Ariz., for three years. Nyam Smith has been named associate vice president of Family Services at St. Paul-based Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, the largest nonprofit human service organization statewide. In his new role, Nyam is responsible for developing key community relationships to create innovative and high-quality services to assure that Minnesota's children, youth and families will have safe, stable homes, as well as the opportunity to thrive in the community.

**93** John Bagyi is included in the Best Lawyers in America 2013 for Employment Law—Management and

the 2012 New York Super Lawyers Upstate Edition listing for Employment and Labor. John, a certified senior professional in human resources, counsels and represents employers of all types and sizes in a variety of labor and employment contexts. He also has served on the executive committee of Albany Law School's National Alumni Association and co-chaired the Albany-Colonie Chamber of Commerce's Capital Leadership program. John has been listed in the New York Super Lawyers since 2009 and in the Best Lawyers in America since 2007.

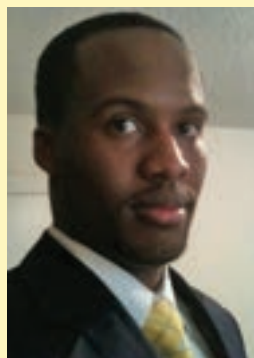
**94** Samantha Shanahan McGrath joined Wouch, Maloney & Co. LLP, Certified Public Accountants, as an accounting and audit manager last August. She is responsible for planning and executing audit, review and compilation engagements for firm clients. Previously, she worked at a national accounting firm in Philadelphia. Samantha is a licensed C.P.A. in the State of New York and in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Sonia Nunez recently was hired by Columbus Elementary in New Rochelle, N.Y., as its principal. Sonia has been assistant principal at Columbus since September 2005. Prior to that time, she held several positions, including foreign language teacher and 21st-century after-school program coordinator, at Isaac E. Young Middle School, New Rochelle, N.Y. Heidi Weber has joined Berkshire Community College in Massachusetts as public relations manager. She will be responsible for developing and distributing promotional and public relations materials, such as news



Samantha McGrath

## Rashaun Allen, B.S.'09 In the Moment

As an assistant manager at Hannaford near his Wappingers Falls, N.Y., home, Rashaun Allen oversees daily operations for various departments; assists customers and vendors; plans training for associates; and helps direct the store's community-service efforts. On his own time, however, Allen is a poet who launched Rashaun Enterprises LLC, now operating as RoyalBluePublishing.com.



"My poetry is my heart on display," says the Brooklyn, N.Y., native. While "a handful of the poems" in his self-published *A Walk Through Brooklyn* and *In The Moment* "are personal," and some "mention current events, politics and religion," the others "are snapshots of a collective experience we all share. My goal is to keep my poetry timeless and relatable," explains Allen, whose themes include love, social issues and overcoming hardship.

"Everyone has a moment in life that decides his or her future. That moment, for me, happened at a poetry showcase. I really wanted to win. I didn't, but I made a personal commitment not to let adversity get the best of me. I decided to write a book, which became *A Walk Through Brooklyn*. My favorite poem in it is 'If I Could'; it is dedicated to my mother. Another of my favorites, from *In The Moment*, is 'A Hero,' written for my grandfather."

Both *In The Moment* and *A Walk Through Brooklyn* are available as e-books. Through RoyalBluePublishing.com, "I am looking for writers to publish in non-fiction and fiction genres. I don't rest on my laurels," notes Allen, adding that he plans to write "a memoir or a self-help book."

Allen, who always "loved to write," majored in business administration and English at UAlbany, "a place conducive to growth. I was offered a generous financial aid package; pre-enrolled in the School of Business; and selected as an EOP student, which meant I would have a lot of support."

EOP, he adds, was "my road map" at the University. "The administrative staff – Dr. [Carson] Carr, Maritza Martinez, Tyshena Hunter and Chris Fernando – was my compass. Dr. Carr emphasized the importance of lifting other people up as you climb. Maritza's dedication impresses everyone. Chris would lend his ear to me whenever I was contemplating a life decision. I never considered having a mentor until a conversation with Tyshena. I had study groups and went to social events with my EOP peers. EOP was my extended family."

To learn more about *A Walk Through Brooklyn* and *In The Moment*, visit [www.RoyalBluePublishing.com](http://www.RoyalBluePublishing.com). For writing inquiries, email Allen at [Rashaunenterprises@gmail.com](mailto:Rashaunenterprises@gmail.com).

## Like us on Facebook and help fund a scholarship



Thanks to the *Elva N. Hudtwalker Scholarship*, Tia Marks will get, "another year in school and another step closer" to her educational and career goals. Tia plans to attend medical school and then work for Doctors Without Borders in an effort to help heal those in need around the world.

Like the UAlbany Alumni Association on Facebook and help heal the world... one student at a time.



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# Alumni News & Notes



*Alums show off their school spirit at the Homecoming photo booth.*

releases, human interest stories and feature articles.

**95** Gillian McCombs gave two papers at the International Federation of Library Associations meeting in Helsinki, Finland, this past year. She also was selected as one of 100 women in Texas to participate in the annual Leadership Texas program. Gillian was honored by Southern Methodist University's Archives of Women of the Southwest in its Remember the Ladies! Campaign. The Veteran Feminists of America also recognized her as a "Texas Woman Pioneer." Mariangela Milea recently opened up an Italian-inspired eatery, Pepino Gourmet Express, in the upper-level food court at Colonie Center in Albany, N.Y. Christina Hernandez was nominated by Governor Cuomo and confirmed by the New York State Senate for a new term on the board of parole this past June. She is currently a social worker and looking to receive her doctorate.

**96** Jason Samuels was appointed to the Contractors for Kids' advisory board by Farrell Fritz in Islandia, N.Y. Jason represents contractors, owners and developers in all aspects of construction. He also serves on the legislative committee for the Subcontractors Trade Association. Joel Hurowitz, a Director's Fellow at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., works in the Planetary Science and Life Detection

Section. Recently, Joel worked extensively on the Mars Exploration Rover mission as a member of the Athena science team and had a hand in the rover that landed on Mars in August. For this project, Joel was a surface sampling systems scientist and a member of the Microwave Scan Beam Landing System Science Team.

**97** Scott Kalicki was appointed president of Lakes Region Community College, Laconia, N.H. in January 2012. He had served as interim president since August 2011 and was the unanimous choice of the board for a permanent appointment. Scott, who has more than 30 years' experience in higher education administration, has served as both vice president and dean at multiple colleges and universities. Jonathan Moore recently was selected partner at Blank Rome LLP. Jonathan concentrates his practice on the areas of financial services and corporate law. He also represents borrowers and lenders in the areas of commercial lending and asset-based financing.

**98** Richard Sloma has been promoted to colonel in the New York



Richard Sloma

Army National Guard. He is the coordinator of the New York National Guard Task Force, headquartered at Stratton

For a complete list of class councilors:  
[www.albany.edu/alumni/avc.php](http://www.albany.edu/alumni/avc.php)  
 or call the Alumni Association at  
 (518) 442-3080.

Air National Guard Base in Scotia, N.Y. Richard has served as a full-time member of the New York Army National Guard since 2002. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Commendation Medal, three Meritorious Service Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, two Army Achievement Medals and the Parachute Badge. Chris Marshall recently was appointed vice president of GG+A, where he will lead the expanded alumni relations practice. Chris will be focusing on strategically integrating an alumni relations program with the development program, measuring alumni engagement, leveraging social media and technology to increase alumni engagement and philanthropy, and training and managing volunteers. Rom Marasinski and Rebecca Picasso moved to Manatee County, Fla., three years ago from New York to open downtown Bradenton's Retro City Grill. After meeting at the University at Albany, Rebecca and Rom started a graphic-design business that specializes in restaurant marketing and menu designs, servicing large food vendors like Sysco. All menu items are fresh and hand packed. Customer favorites include the classic "Retro Ruben" sandwich and "John

Wayne Burger." Rebecca enjoys involving Retro City in special events around the community and seeks opportunities for partnerships with more organizations in the future.

**99** Peter Maltin left Merrill Lynch after 13 years to establish Maltin Wealth Management Inc.

**00** David Redmon has been working on his most current documentary, "Girl Model," which is now in theatrical release and will be broadcast on PBS this year. He has also made seven feature documentaries, including Mardi Gras: Made in China, Kamp Katrina and Downeast. Daniel Guyton has published four new plays with Heuer Publishing. Each is a 10-minute comedy about the Christmas season. The plays are Rebel Without a Claus; Death of a Snowman; Rosie, the Retired Rockette; and How I Met Your Santa. For more information: [www.hitplays.com/default.aspx?pg=ab&agn=Daniel&aln=Guyton](http://www.hitplays.com/default.aspx?pg=ab&agn=Daniel&aln=Guyton).

**01** Lance Corporal Michael Glover, who was killed in action in Iraq in 2006, was inducted into the Hall of Fame at Xavier High School



Elizabeth Ukpe '07 speaks to current UAlbany students at the "UAlbany to the Runway" alumni panel.



# Weddings

located in New York, N.Y., this past November. The school presents the LCpl. Mike Glover, USMC, '97, Memorial Scholarship every year; the LCpl. Mike Glover '97 Medal is given to a senior annually at graduation ceremonies.

**02** New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has appointed Joseph Garba director of the Mayor's Office of State Legislative Affairs. Joe will be responsible for leading the administration's state legislative agenda, overseeing relations with the Office of the Governor and state legislators, preparing the administration's response to proposed state legislation impacting New York City and helping to lead negotiations on those bills. Since joining the Bloomberg Administration in April 2010, Joe has helped secure passage of major components of the mayor's state agenda.

**05** Jay Werther received a Juris Doctor degree from the Roger Williams University School of Law during commencement ceremonies held this past May in Bristol, R.I. Jay also served as a member of the Association of Public Interest Law, Criminal Law Society, Family Law Society, Federalist Society, Moot Court and the Women's Law Society.

**06** Jennifer Peck, a second-year doctoral student in the Department of Criminology at the University of South Florida, recently was inducted into the hall of fame by the department. The award is given to distinguished alumni and outstanding criminology ambassadors. Jennifer is also a past officer and current member of the Criminology Graduate Student Organization.

**07** Mary Guadrón was awarded the 2012 Altes Prize for Exemplary Community Service for her volunteer work with the Saratoga County Office for the Aging's Ombudsman Program. The Altes Prize is awarded annually by the college to recognize exemplary community service by a college faculty member who applies academic expertise to address community issues.

**08** Dan Lief is currently living in Los Angeles and pursuing a career in filmmaking. The new episode of his comedic Webisode "College Kids" can be found at [www.collegekidstv.net](http://www.collegekidstv.net).

**10** Michael Kelly has been hired by La Jolla Sports Club as a sales representative in La Jolla, Calif.

**11** Colleen Dundas helped launch a disaster-preparedness education program through the Red Cross and CDPHP. The program, the Be Red Cross Ready University (BRCRU), aims to educate college students. Offered exclusively by the Northeastern New York Region's Preparedness Team, it is an offshoot of the informative Be Red Cross Ready programs sponsored by CDPHP. This is the first Red Cross preparedness program specifically for college campuses to be conducted anywhere in the United States. The program is based on Colleen's experience as a resident adviser during her undergraduate years at the University at Albany. Kathleen Feldman was appointed office manager of The Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts. Kathleen is responsible for ensuring the day-to-day operations of the organization – from accounts payable and receivable, to scheduling and managing databases, to event-planning assistance – run smoothly. Taylor Frink was named the new assistant coach for the women's lacrosse program at North Carolina's Davidson College. She comes to Davidson after coaching at Longwood University during 2011-12.

**12** Carmen Duncan received a Fabulous Feminists Award as a Bridge Builder from Holding Our Own and the Women's Building at their celebration of more than 30 years of women's community building and feminist social justice organizing in New York's Capital Region. The Fabulous Feminists Awards recognizes women active in the Capital Region women's community for their contributions.

1978 – **Jonathan Berman** and Yasmin McMillan, Jan. 7, 2012

1984 – **Kenneth Neil Price** and Scott David Coff, June 23, 2012

1995 – **David Jay Strauss** and Nora Alexandra Gomez, Oct. 21, 2012

1998 – **Brian Parker Lonergan** and Jonna Allison McLaughlin, Sept. 22, 2012

2000 – **Michael James Constantino** and Suzanne Zacharias, June 30, 2012

2000 – **Kirk Matthew Wilson** and Andrea Jill Gorkin, Oct. 13, 2012

2004 – **William Mack III** and Lian Sorhaindo, Sept. 22, 2012

2007 – **Jeffrey Lundin** and Marcia Kafchinski, Aug. 6, 2011

2008 – **Kimberly Roberts** and **Michael Tappen**, June 17, 2012

2009 – **Erin Dana Yitzhari** and Abraham Lichy, June 28, 2012

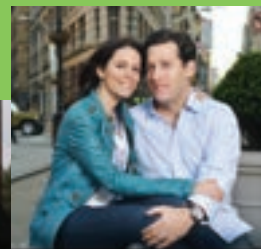
2011 – **Elizabeth Geras** and Vijay Krishna Paruchuru, Oct. 27, 2012



David Jay Strauss and Nora Alexandra Gomez



Marcia Kafchinski and Jeffrey Lundin



Andrea Jill Gorkin and Kirk Matthew Wilson



Michael Tappen and Kimberly Roberts

# Births

1992 – **Shannon L. Ritter** and wife Olena, a son, Nikifor, Oct. 27, 2012

1995 – **Michael Cohen** and wife Robin, a son, Aidan Jared, March 2, 2012

1997 – **Patrick Flandreau** and wife Elizabeth, a daughter, Vivian, June 2012

2003 – **John Howard Smith** and wife Erica a daughter, River Miranda, July 31, 2012



Aidan Jared Cohen



Vivian Flandreau

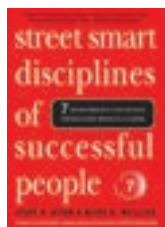


River Miranda Smith

# Authors and Editors

The first book by **Ronald Short, B.A. '59, M.A. '60**, is completed and being formatted in both hard cover and as an e-book. *Mission Impossible: One Man's Story of Learning to Live With, Love and Lead Teens*, details Short's 50 years of working with teens as a middle school and high school teacher, high school principal and youth pastor, and of speaking at conventions on the topic.

**Edward W. Wolner, B.A. '65**, is the author of *Henry Ives Cobb's Chicago: Architecture, Institutions, and the Making of a Modern Metropolis*, published in June 2011 by The University of Chicago Press.



**John Kuhn, B.A. '68**, has written *Street Smart Disciplines of Successful People*. Proclaimed to be the first book of its kind, *Street Smart Disciplines* discusses the "how and why of disciplines" and presents powerful material meant to help students achieve the success they want in life.

**Adele Porter Pascucci, B.A. '69, M.A. '70**, has published two children's books. A retired teacher and principal, she is an experienced sailor on the Hudson River, and her familiarity with the local water fowl inspired *Duck on a Dock*. Her second book, *Evergreen Learns the Miracle of Christmas*, originally was written and illustrated for her son in 1982. She revised and updated the story for her granddaughter's first Christmas. Both books are available online.



**Charles Eames Jr., M.L.S. '71**, has written two collections of essays: *No Complaints Yet* and *Stories to Tell*.

**Jill Paperno, B.S. '71**, is the author of *Representing the Accused: The Practical Guide to Criminal Defense*. This Aspatore legal title provides invaluable advice for

navigating one's way through a legal case. The book offers clear explanations of the criminal attorney's role at every stage, from the arrest through the conclusion of the case.

**Cecile Lawrence, M.A. '73**, has written *Movements in Time: Revolution, Social Justice and Times of Change*. Lawrence co-edited the book with Natalie Churn.

**Lawrence Webster, M.L.S. '73**, is the author of *Under the North Light: The Life and Work of Maud and Miska Petersham*. The Petershams were pivotal figures in the history of American children's book publishing and illustration. Their story is told for the first time by Webster, a non-profit library consultant and writer who was a neighbor of the Petershams while growing up in Woodstock, N.Y.



**Vito Grasso, M.P.A. '74**, published a book with SUNY Press this past August, *John Emmett Connors: Artist from Troy*. With more than 100 beautiful color images, the book collects the artist's depictions of his favorite places in the Collar City and surrounding areas. Grasso's collaboration with Connors adds a distinctive voice to his recollections, resulting in a stunning visual and narrative account. More information: [www.sunypress.edu/p-5616-john-emmett-connors.aspx](http://www.sunypress.edu/p-5616-john-emmett-connors.aspx).

**Susan Naramore Maher, B.A. '77**, co-edited a new collection of critical essays on writer Loren Eiseley. The book is entitled *Artifacts and Illuminations: Critical Essays on Loren Eiseley*. Maher also contributed a chapter, "The Places Below: Mapping the Invisible Universe" in Loren Eiseley's *Plains Essays*.

**Joanne Dobson, M.A. '77**, co-authored a first-in-series new mystery, *Face of the Enemy*, last fall. The first release explores New York City during World War II. *Face of the Enemy* was published in hardcover, trade paper and e-book editions in September by Poisoned Pen Press.

**Sharon Elswit, M.L.S. '77**, has released a new reference book, *The Jewish Story Finder*. The second edition of a bibliographic reference for educators, storytellers, clergy and families, the work points the way to stories from the Jewish oral tradition that diverse audiences will enjoy.



**Ed Moser, B.A. '77**, recently released *Foundering Fathers: What Jefferson, Franklin, and Abigail Adams Saw in Modern D.C.* In this humorous book, the idealistic Founders make it their mission to restore thrift, common sense, ethics, self-reliance and sound government to their troubled nation. The book, which may be purchased on Amazon and Barnes & Noble, also has a Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/#!/FounderingFathers](http://www.facebook.com/#!/FounderingFathers).



**Frank Jones, M.P.A. '78**, has released *Blowtorch*, a novel about the late Robert Komer. Published by the Naval Institute Press, the book takes its name from "Blowtorch," the nickname given to Komer because of his abrasive personality and disdain for bureaucratic foot dragging. Jones highlights Komer's activities during the three years he strove to fulfill the president's vision that Communism could be expelled from Southeast Asia by economic and social development, along with military force.



**Robert Sampson, M.A. '79, Ph.D. '83**, is the author of *Great American City: Chicago and the Enduring Neighborhood Effect*, published by The University of Chicago Press. Sampson currently is a professor of sociology at Harvard University.



Johannes Froebel-Parker, B.A. '78, M.A. '82, M.S. '85, has written *Grandma Harrington and the Queen's Wardrobe*. The book covers the family history between the Harringtons and the Tudors and is based on solid genealogical research. Froebel-Parker combines history with culture, while using familial experiences to make the work accessible to readers of all ages.



Richard Burton, B.A. '86, is the author of *Godsent*, a novel about the intriguing and shocking ramifications of God's sending a second son to Earth in modern time.

Elisabeth Doyle, '86, '87, is the author of a short fiction, *War Stories*, published this past September. More information: [www.warstoriesshortfiction.com](http://www.warstoriesshortfiction.com).

Mark Allman, B.A. '90, is the editor of *The Almighty and the Dollar: Reflections on Economic Justice for All*. The book, a re-examination of the U.S. Catholic bishops' seminal teaching in their historic pastoral letter, reviews the document and notes current changes toward a global economy and the desire to extend the bishops' concerns to the poor of the world.

Kara Newman, B.A. '92, is the author of *The Secret Financial Life of Food*. The book will benefit anyone involved in the food industry, including producers, users, the ultimate consumer and even professionals in the culinary arts. Newman's novel covers topics ranging from how contracts listed on the



Chicago Mercantile Exchange can read like a menu to how market behavior can dictate global economic and culinary practice.

Gregory Hitchcock, B.A. '92, has written *Schizophrenia in the Army*, a personal journey of a mentally ill soldier and his efforts

at recovering from his paranoid schizophrenia.

Ashu Saxena, M.S. '93, has written a unique resource for soccer coaches, players and parents, as well as for coaches of other sports. *Soccer – Strategies for Sustained Coaching Success* addresses coaching, team culture, leadership management, evaluation, fitness and training/self-training.



Suzette Bishop, D.A., Ph.D. '93, has had her second poetry book published. The book, *Horse-Minded*, covers topics from equestrian aerialists to auto-crash survivors. More information: [www.readcwbooks.com/bishop.html](http://www.readcwbooks.com/bishop.html).

Daniel Guyton, B.A. '00, has published a new book of audition monologues for actors, *52 Monologues for Grown-Ups (And College Kids)*. The monologues are great for film and theater auditions. The book is available at [www.danguyton.com/Shop.html](http://www.danguyton.com/Shop.html).

Molly Guptill Manning, B.A. '01, M.A. '02, is the author of *The Myth of Ephraim Tutt: Arthur Train and His Great Literary Hoax*. The book explores the true and previously untold story behind one of the most elaborate literary hoaxes in American history.



Charles Moore, M.R.P. '05, has authored *Path to Progress*, a book about regional planning and poverty. Moore argues that when society addresses poverty, prosperity and security increase for all. He will donate 20 percent of his profits to the Boys and Girls Club to show that we can all make a difference, no matter how small. More information: [www.thepathprogress.com](http://www.thepathprogress.com).

# UAlbany

Here are the best ways to reach us!

## ADDRESS, E-MAIL, PHONE OR JOB CHANGES

E-mail: [proyce@albany.edu](mailto:proyce@albany.edu)

Mail: Pushpa Royce

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1400 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12222

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# Alumni News & Notes

## Deaths

### 1920s

Dorothy Dangermond Bruins '23, April 27, 2010  
Harriet Ritzer Johnson '24, March 23, 2008  
Catherine Russell Mondon '24, Jan. 15, 2008  
Sara Dranitzke Frommer '26, May 11, 2008  
Georgia Democker Mowers '26, Sept. 24, 2006  
Leah Cohen Degnan '28, Dec. 10, 2007  
Dorothy Watts Goodfellow '28, Jan. 31, 2004  
Mildred Beswick Hanmer '28, Sept. 29, 2007  
Charlotte Duncan Russell '28, Sept. 24, 2006  
Lela Vanschaick '28, March 28, 2010  
Irene Sutliff Dana '29, Oct. 26, 2004  
Helen Davidson Pierce '29, Dec. 25, 2006

### 1930s

Elizabeth Owens Burke '30, Nov. 21, 2008  
Beatrice McCarty Field '30, Dec. 01, 2008  
Catharine Snyder Mortensen '30, March 31, 2008  
Louise Fischer Muller '30, Oct. 21, 2005  
Katherine Watkins Rooney '30, Jan. 21, 2011  
Eunice Gilbert Soden '30, Nov. 12, 2004  
Gertrude Frenier Wager '30, Jan. 30, 2005  
M. Elizabeth Schrauth Crilley '31, April 22, 2006  
Marjorie Fowler Doherty '31, April 27, 2006  
L. Wilhelmina Schneider Donovan '31, Feb. 04, 2009

Edna Morse Harrington '31, Dec. 29, 2010  
Florence Borst Ives '31, Aug. 20, 2005  
Brooks A. Jones '31, March 8, 2012  
Louis Kolker '31, March 24, 2008  
Betty Simon Lipsky '31, Dec. 11, 2009  
Margaret Mulligan Noon '31, April 20, 2010  
Vera Burns Anderson '32, Dec. 27, 2009  
Sarah Caplan Brand '32, Feb. 20, 2010  
Franklin B. Clark '32, Aug. 17, 2012  
Marie Stiefvater Dawson '32, Feb. 11, 2007  
Edith Levine Fleminberg '32, May 14, 2008  
Margaret E. Fortmiller '32, Sept. 12, 2006  
Martha Davis Hall '32, Dec. 26, 2011  
Rose Gustowt Hallock '32, Dec. 11, 2010  
Louise Ray Keeney '32, Nov. 17, 2006  
Rose Baxter Waddell '32, March 17, 2010  
Gertrude Webb '32, Sept. 26, 2007  
Ralph H. Baker '33, June 23, 2012  
Margaret F. Kurilecz '33, May 13, 2010  
Hilda V. Van Alstine Finkbeiner '35, Oct. 5, 2009  
Joan Barrow Gaffey '35, Feb. 26, 2010  
Charity Mace Roth '35, Aug. 19, 2012  
Evelyn M. Rich Smith '35, Aug. 27, 2011  
Emma P. Tenblad '35, March 6, 2009  
Marian Steele Gould '36, Sept. 20, 2012  
Vivian Westcott Peck '36, Dec. 27, 2007  
Grace Parker Coco '37, Dec. 20, 2011  
Arlene Smith Yager '37, June 24, 2010

Alice Holt Kaufman '38, Sept. 17, 2006  
Florence Nelbach Leese '38, April 26, 2012  
Catherine E. Lagrua Tanner '38, Jan. 2, 2013

### 1940s

Frances Becker Bays '40, March 8, 2012  
Alice Brown '40, Sept. 15, 2012  
Hannah Lakritz Feldman '40, May 5, 2011  
Louis P. Francello '40, April 22, 2004  
Elizabeth Allen Jennings '41, Sept. 21, 2008  
Helen Pitman Mandato '41, Feb. 3, 2012  
Agnes Mishalanie Pollard '41, Feb. 26, 2010  
Sarah E. Beard '42, Jan. 11, 2012  
Margaret Clapp Butch '42, May 24, 2012  
Mary B. Brierton Curry '42, Nov. 5, 2008  
Veronica M. Greulick '42, Aug. 6, 2012  
Allan D. Woodell '42, Aug. 7, 2011  
Sylvia Tefft Chesser '43, May 31, 2011  
Margaret Byrne Fawcner '44, July 26, 2012  
Robert Bain '46, Nov. 19, 2004  
Shirley Siegel Passow '46, Feb. 14, 2012  
Doris Jenks Woods '46, June 2, 2012  
Olive MacDowell Gorman '47, Oct. 16, 2012  
Justine Sager Lewis '47, May 14, 2012  
Ann Moselle Hall '48, May 18, 2005  
Marie Bennett Moore '48, May 22, 2012  
C. Joseph Amyot '49, Jan. 4, 2013  
Joseph V. Carosella '49, Sept. 7, 2012  
Lena M. Morse Fay '49, April 11, 2012

## Ralph H. Baker, Ph.D., B.A.'33

Ralph H. Baker – who, as both student and professor, maintained a longtime affiliation with the New York State College for Teachers (NYSCT) and the University at Albany – passed away June 23, 2012, in St. Petersburg, Fla. He was 101.

As a transfer student from Ohio, Baker majored in social studies at NYSCT. After completing master's studies at Columbia University and earning a doctorate from Johns Hopkins, he joined the NYSCT faculty and taught social studies from 1939 until retiring in 1968. In an interview for UAlbany magazine (Spring 2009, "Seventy Years With UAlbany"), Baker recalled that "two-year interruptions for World War II military service and for academic study" accounted for the only time he spent away from his teaching duties during those three decades.

Throughout his career, Baker was a favorite among students who enrolled in his American Government, American Parties

and Politics, Constitutional Law, and State and Local Government in New York courses. He was also well known for his 1941 book *The National Bituminous Coal Commission Administration of the Bituminous Coal Act*.

With his wife of 74 years, who passed away in 2008, Baker established a bequest to support the Ralph H. and Dora W. Baker Scholarship Fund in Political Science. The fund will benefit full-time undergraduate political science majors.

Survivors include a son, Ronald Baker.





# Alumni News & Notes

Mary Odak Fowler '49, April 22, 2012  
Ruth Bridger Hart '49, Oct. 1, 2012  
Arlene Golden Noonan '49, May 22, 2012  
Abraham L. Trop '49, Sept. 8, 2012

## 1950s

Margaret McMahon Markes '50, Oct. 18, 2012  
Joan E. Viele '50, Nov. 16, 2011  
Eugene P. Rohr '51, April 1, 2012  
Margaret Mary "Sugar" Edwards '52, May 25, 2012  
Amelia Raschiatore '52, July 23, 2012  
Marjorie Alguire Duprey '53, Aug. 11, 2010  
Maureen Ryerson Forseth '53, March 17, 2007  
Audrey R. Warren '53, April 23, 2011  
Doris Doherty Wilson '53, July 16, 2012  
E. Stanley Howlett, III '54, June 17, 2012  
Kathleen House Leonard '54, Oct. 22, 2012  
Carol Boylan Vanglubb '54, Oct. 01, 2010  
Donald A. Canonica '55, July 3, 2011  
Thomas Hogue '55, Aug. 9, 2012  
Willard A. Monsell '56, Oct. 16, 2012  
Lillian K. Gregory Powell '56, Nov. 15, 2012  
M. Maxine Adner Sackman '56, May 28, 2012  
David L. Kenyon '57, Jan. 11, 2012  
Doris Dunn Lifshin '57, June 25, 2012  
Lynn Madison Sitrin '57, Sept. 6, 2012  
Marion Sciortino Guthrie '59, June 14, 2012

## 1960s

Robert R. Lajeunesse '60, May 28, 2012  
William Nickerson '60, April 2, 2007  
Robert W. Kahn '61, July 10, 2012  
Mary Laun Knight '61, March 8, 2012  
Katherine Grimm Wolfe '61, June 10, 2012  
Russell W. Dunham '62, July 3, 2012  
Dorothy Gennett '62, Dec. 1, 1986  
Patricia Petersen Soukup '62, June 18, 2012  
David M. Neville '63, July 12, 2012  
Thomas R. Powers '65, April 27, 2005  
Dewitt L. Clinton '66, March 12, 2009  
Anne T. Coppola '66, June 27, 2012  
Patricia Ruzzo '66, Sept. 21, 2012  
Eleanor E. Heffner '67, Oct. 10, 2012  
Helena Gadala Hoeth '67, Nov. 6, 2009  
Orest Lewinter '67, Oct. 24, 2012  
Helen Weisner Hartle '68, Nov. 4, 2012  
Robert J. Hilt '68, Sept. 9, 2010  
Ronald E. Tiffany '68, April 3, 2012  
Richard Anable '69, Sept. 11, 2012  
Joanne E. Kull '69, Aug. 9, 2010  
Howard Steggs '69, March 25, 2012

## 1970s

Paul B. Boyce '70, July 11, 2012  
Goldie W. Hoffman '70, Sept. 24, 2008  
Winifred Miller '70, Sept. 14, 2012  
Kevin N. Quinn '70, March 8, 2005  
Shirley W. Wickham '70, Oct. 2, 2012  
Clarence H. Baker '71, Aug. 5, 2011  
Christopher F. Cowan '71, April 26, 2012  
Catherine R. Curtin '71, Jan. 17, 2004  
Phyllis J. O'Shea Palladino '71, Oct. 10, 2012  
Paul R. St. Pierre '71, June 18, 2012  
Marilyn I. Tokarsky '71, May 9, 2012  
Robert E. Hutchinson '72, Sept. 14, 2012  
Robert J. Maas '72, Oct. 19, 2011  
Michael K. Maloney '72, July 2, 2012  
Dalton S. Marks '72, Aug. 26, 2012  
Gary A. Alpert, Sr. '73, May 27, 2011  
William R. Beal, Jr. '73, Aug. 18, 2012  
Lou J. Bolchazy '73, July 28, 2012  
Chris C. Boe Brand '73, July 16, 2008  
Donna L. Kling '73, July 18, 2012  
Richard E. Russell '73, Oct. 17, 2005  
Brian E. Donohue '74, Oct. 17, 2012  
John S. Goldkamp '74, Aug. 26, 2012  
Joan Stein Weiant '74, Aug. 3, 2012  
Betty Taylor Baldwin '75, Sept. 2, 2012  
Charles R. Chew, Jr. '75, Nov. 18, 2010  
Marilyn Costello Mansfield '75, May 29, 2012  
Robert A. Beller '76, Aug. 25, 2011  
Virginia Bolen '76, Nov. 19, 2008  
Theodore A. Brent '76, Nov. 06, 2012  
Mary L. Bucher '76, June 6, 2012  
William J. Doherty '77, March 25, 2010  
Bruce P. Rissi '77, July 14, 2012  
Alice M. Boule '78, Feb. 27, 2010  
Christopher Wikane '78, June 03, 2012  
Barbara W. Clark '79, Feb. 4, 2006  
Deborah D. Nelson Gray '79, May 27, 2012  
Raymond Reilly '79, May 26, 2012

## 1980s

Reginald L. Brown '80, Sept. 26, 2009  
Beth W. Clute '80, Nov. 24, 2011  
Larry W. Fleischer '80, July 6, 2012  
Norbert H. Hellmann '80, Jan. 4, 2013  
Timothy A. Smith '80, Oct. 28, 2012  
Stella Pao-Whei Tsai '81, June 3, 2011  
Sandra J. Brokaw '82, July 1, 2012  
Harriet L. Shore '82, Sept. 17, 2012  
Michael F. Coyle '83, Sept. 29, 2012  
Thomas Gecewicz '83, Aug. 27, 2012

Kent J. Liszewski '83, Feb. 16, 2009  
Agatha Thomas Flores '84, Aug. 21, 2012  
Kathryn Rinaldi '84, May 24, 2012  
Patricia R. Baker '85, June 9, 2012  
Han-Sheng Jin '85, Jan. 17, 2010  
Eric S. Holzberg '86, Nov. 6, 2012  
Michael J. Kiskis '86, May 8, 2011  
Luanne Dufresne Prusaitis '86, Nov. 11, 2012  
Oliver C. Kaufhold '87, Dec. 6, 2010  
Karen B. Koenig '88, Aug. 14, 2008  
Gregory A. Martin '88, Sept. 05, 2012

## 1990s

Timothy J. Fahrenkopf '90, Aug. 12, 2012  
Mark L. Irons '90, Oct. 5, 2012  
Paul F. Solimini '90, July 27, 2012  
Diana Squires Edelman '92, Dec. 3, 2011  
Andrew J. Alexopoulos '93, July 4, 2012  
Constance A. Laymon '93, Sept. 21, 2012  
Geraldine A. Tarnoff '93, Aug. 22, 2009  
Sharon R. Liepshutz '94, April 26, 2008  
Robert G. Dillon '98, May 3, 2011

## 2000s

William J. Bott '01, July 31, 2012  
Bridget A. Fitzgerald '03, Sept. 1, 2009  
Joel N. VanKuren Jr. '04, April 3, 2011  
Harrison E. Berg '05, Nov. 9, 2010  
Maureen A. Kirby '07, Aug. 5, 2012  
Kali Mordaunt Korzelius '07, Oct. 3, 2012  
Jeffrey B. Rosenberg '07, June 2, 2012  
Michael D. Fish '09, May 15, 2011  
Daniel M. McWeeney '09, Sept. 3, 2012  
Margaret A. Sawyer '09, Aug. 28, 2012

## Faculty/Staff

Donald S. Allen, Professor, Chemistry, 1959-1968, Dec. 31, 2012  
Lloyd W. Allen, Staff Assistant, Plant Department, 1960-1996, July 20, 2012  
Joseph M. Heikoff, Professor, Public Administration, 1969-1985, Sept. 14, 2010  
Richard E. Hughes, Professor, Management Sciences and Information, 1990-2001, April 28, 2010  
Joseph H. Morehead Jr., Lecturer, College of Computing and Information, 1970-2003, Sept. 3, 2012  
Rita D. Trinci, Data Manager, Development Division, 1991-2012, Aug. 22, 2012

# Last Look

## The Interfaith Center Building Bridges, Creating Community

Some visitors are drawn to The Interfaith Center's new meditation and prayer room, which contains Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim texts and sacred objects. Others return to celebrate special occasions; a bar mitzvah and a wedding were held there in 2012.

Timothy Furgal, B.A.'07, reconnected with Roman Catholicism there last summer. Then a graduate student "trying to find a quiet place to meditate," he "wandered into The Interfaith Center." Soon, "I started to invest myself in my faith again," said Furgal, who earned a degree in English.

"The Interfaith Center has strengthened my convictions and helped me gain confidence. Donna [Crisafulli, Interfaith Center executive director]; [Catholic Campus Minister] Cathy [Reid]; and the center have provided me so much this past year. I can only hope to do as much for them someday."

While majoring in globalization studies, Samantha Leuschner, B.A.'12, initially resisted joining a campus faith group. At the invitation of Nicole Lopez, B.A.'09, M.S.'11, whom she would succeed as Newman Association president, she began attending Mass at The Interfaith Center, which became "my home away from home."

The center also broadened Leuschner's "knowledge and experience" of other religions. She participated in Ramadan observances, Faith Sharing talks and the Unity Dinner. Helping Crisafulli to create the center's meditation and prayer room – a "joyous and exciting" experience – underscored Leuschner's conviction that "there is something special about The Interfaith Center."

Senior biology major Kamilla

Hussein, who sometimes visits the center to pray and read the Qur'an, agrees. The Muslim Students Association (MSA) president appreciates the "sense of peace and unity that emanates from The Interfaith Center and brings us together with people from all different backgrounds." Through "fast-a-thons," members of other faiths "fast and break the fast with us." A Faith Sharing

program featured "our faculty adviser, Sohaib Chekima of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, who spoke about his

journey to Islam." Events such as the upcoming Muslim-Jewish Peace Walk also "celebrate religious tolerance," Hussein observed.

The Albany Collegiate Interfaith Center was incorporated in 1966 "to provide a space for students, faculty and staff to nurture and/or discover their own spirituality and to come together to explore and learn about other faith traditions," said Crisafulli. Students also gather at the center to plan programs that assist others and to socialize.

With The Interfaith Center's 50th anniversary approaching, Crisafulli hopes to be able to add staff and programming. Renovations to the kosher and non-kosher kitchens, technology and lighting improvements, and library materials are also on her wish list.

Groups on and off campus may rent Interfaith Center space for various events. A sliding scale of charges applies, with priority scheduling accorded UAlbany students, faculty and staff.

For more information, contact Crisafulli at [dcrisafulli@albany.edu](mailto:dcrisafulli@albany.edu) or 518-489-8573, Ext. 21.

**The Interfaith Center has strengthened my convictions and helped me gain confidence.**

– Timothy Furgal, B.A.'07

Interfaith Center  
Executive Director  
Donna Crisafulli, B.A.'77



Mark Schmidt





## Invest in the Future!

Three months after the December 1844 founding of the New York State Normal School, known today as the University at Albany, developer and philanthropist James Wadsworth left a bequest of \$300 designated for the school's first library. Today, Wadsworth's generous legacy lives on in UAlbany's three state-of-the-art libraries, which collectively house more than 2 million volumes.

Like James Wadsworth,  
you can invest in UAlbany's future.

For information about including the University  
at Albany in your estate plans, please contact

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Office of Gift Planning  
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