FEATURES

24 Crowning Achievements
Students in the Renée Crown University Honors Program put learning into practice as they push the boundaries of undergraduate education in Capstone Projects.

30 Return to Leipzig
After escaping Nazi Germany as a young boy, a longtime SU faculty member revisits his childhood and appears in a television show about his family.

36 Weaving Threads of Hope
SU’s Students in Free Enterprise partner with Guatemalan women to build a business they hope will transform lives in a rural community.

42 SU and a Civil War Masterpiece
As an SU student, Stephen Crane was more focused on baseball than studying, but his time in Syracuse may have been more influential to the writing of *The Red Badge of Courage* than previously thought.

“And the truth of the matter is that I went there (SU) more to play base-ball than to study.”

—STEPHEN CRANE
DEPARTMENTS

ON THE COVER: A child from Chumanzana, Guatemala, sports a Whitman School of Management hat. Members of the SU chapter of Students in Free Enterprise helped women weavers there establish a thread store. Photo by Sierra Fogal

2 Chancellor’s Message
3 Opening Remarks
4 Orange Matters
   » Whitman Day Lecture
   » Drama » Cold Case Justice Initiative
   » Tribute » Veterans Listening Project
   » Research Snapshot » University Treasures
   » Carbon Storage Project » Newsmakers
   » Commencement 2010 » Entrepreneurship
18 SU People
48 Alumni Journal
When SU’s official Facebook page topped 20,000 “fans” this spring, it not only marked a milestone in sheer numbers, but underscored how rapidly the face of communication with SU family is changing. Another case in point is Syracuse University Magazine, which for the third time is coming to you in an online-only issue. Besides the sustainability benefits inherent in these eco-friendly media, digital formats enable us to build and better relationships with students, parents, alumni, and friends far and wide. That’s why we’ve also planted the Orange flag on virtual real estate in the Twittersphere and YouTube.

Some of us—and I include myself here—may not have immersed ourselves in the virtual world with the abandon of today’s 18- to 24-year-olds. Yet, I think we all recognize that social media have potential beyond sharing minutiae of daily life. They can, and often do, expand the boundaries of public dialogue and promote transparency and truth. We saw that profoundly last summer when, in the absence of conventional news coverage, Iranian citizens Tweeted their outrage over possible election fraud. We saw it again in recent months as the social media spotlight helped bring to light the true severity of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

Even everyday forays across the social media frontier need not be limited to the mundane. Just ask Pete Kistler ’11, Robert Sherman ’09, G’11, Evan Watson ’11, and Patrick Ambron ’09, who have earned national acclaim for their start-up company, brand-Yourself.com, which empowers users to manage the many and sometimes unwieldy aspects of their online presence. This practical tool is so useful to graduates entering a job market in which the virtual and physical worlds increasingly intersect that SU has given subscriptions as a graduation gift to our entire Class of 2010.

SU alum Dennis Crowley ’98 is determined to bring those worlds even closer together: He co-founded Foursquare, one of the hottest new “apps” around. It’s such an engaging way to encourage users to share local geographic knowledge while building social networks that we’re exploring ways it can be used to familiarize new students with SU and the Syracuse community.

It comes as no surprise that students and young alumni comfortably transcend the boundaries of this hybrid terrain. Yet we know that when it comes to a tête-à-tête, there’s no substitute for face-to-face. So this summer we’ve expanded opportunities for new graduates to meet experienced alums in cities all over the country. This wildly popular nationwide program of networking events, which we call SUccess in the City, is helping our newly minted alums navigate the transition to new careers in what may be otherwise unfamiliar waters.

And speaking of face-to-face, the minting process begins anew when the incoming class arrives on campus in just a few weeks. Undoubtedly, they will continue to challenge our assumptions about what community is and how to build it. They also likely will discover that while new technologies may be a useful starting point, deep and lasting relationships grow best in a collaborative community forged in real time and in shared space. Now that’s a lesson worth Tweeting about.

Cordially,

Nancy Cantor
Chancellor and President
AS THUNDERHEADS BUILD IN THE SKY OUTSIDE MY OFFICE WINDOW ON A sweltering summer day, my mind wanders to the past. There are thoughts of pickup baseball games played decades ago with friends beneath similar skies. We’d roust up kids from around the village and meet at the Little League field. Some days, there were enough of us to fill every position; other days, there’d only be a few to a side and we’d invoke the pitcher’s-mound-is-first-base rule. We played for hours under the hot sun, taking breaks to slurp and splash water from the faucet that stood next to the gravel road leading to the field. Sooner or later, someone would get tired or have to leave and the teams would be reshuffled or the game would break up; another day, another game.

For me, these games reinforced my love for baseball: The game moves at its own pace, oblivious to the constraints of time. It requires patience and the attentiveness of immersing yourself in the moment, no matter how boring or dramatic the possibility. Baseball also tends resiliency, always offering the opportunity of a comeback because, as Yogi Berra once said, “It ain’t over ’til it’s over.” This all came to mind as I read “Syracuse and a Civil War Masterpiece,” a feature by Rick Burton ’80, the David B. Falk Professor of Sport Management, who researched Stephen Crane’s one-semester stint at SU in 1891 and how it may have influenced the novelist in writing The Red Badge of Courage. We cannot know the definitive role Syracuse played in Crane’s life, but we do know that, as a 19-year-old, he had an insatiable passion for baseball—and Syracuse helped him satisfy that craving.

More than a century of students has passed through campus since Crane’s time, and SU has influenced the lives of many of them in many ways. Syracuse—the University and the city—continues to evolve, creating individual and collective experiences from which students learn and benefit. For some, Syracuse becomes a place to settle and grow; for others, Syracuse becomes a place of fond memories where they explored interests, developed lifelong expertise, made friends, and discovered who they are and what they would do with their lives. Looking through these pages, you will find examples of these personal milestones again and again. And, thinking ahead to fall on a broiling-hot summer day, I wonder about the new and returning students and how they will put their Syracuse experiences to use one day, making their marks on the world in their own individual ways.
DAVE BING ‘66, WHO HAS BEEN THRILLING SU students, faculty, and alumni for decades with achievements on the basketball court and off, has found yet another way to stir up excitement among the Orange faithful. In Syracuse to deliver the keynote address at the seventh annual Martin J. Whitman Day celebration in April, Bing made his first public appearance on campus since winning election as mayor of Detroit in 2009. Explaining his reasons for taking on the daunting tasks of governing a city that many people have written off, Bing reminded the audience that he chose to come to Syracuse at a time when the Orange had lost 27 consecutive games over two seasons. “My friends asked why in the world I would want to go to a program that’s a perennial loser,” he said. “Well, it was obvious to me that there was no place else to go but up, and coming to Syracuse was the best decision I made.” The crowd loved it.

Bing, an economics major, rewrote the stats book for Orange men’s basketball as a student-athlete almost half a century ago. His SU career scoring average of 24.7 points per game—achieved before the three-pointer was instituted in college basketball—still stands. A first-round draft pick of the Detroit Pistons, Bing won rookie-of-the-year honors and never looked back. His brilliant play during 12 seasons in the NBA secured his induction to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and gained him a spot on the league’s own list of its 50 greatest all-time players. Of all the honors bestowed upon Bing by pro basketball, perhaps it was the J. Walter Kennedy Citizenship Award “for outstanding service and dedication to the community” that pointed the way to life after basketball.

Trading sneakers for a business suit, Bing pivoted into the executive suite in 1980 to launch a manufacturing venture with a $250,000 loan, four employees, and leased space in a Detroit warehouse. Within five years, the Bing Group had 63 employees and was busy producing auto parts at two Detroit factories to the tune of $40 million in annual revenue. The company eventually grew to employ more than 900 people, grossing $400 million annually. If some of Bing’s new fans didn’t know the difference between a field goal and a free throw, they liked what he was doing at the bottom line. The seven-time NBA All-Star-turned-CEO made room on his trophy shelf for new honors, including a National Minority Business Person of the Year award, presented to him by President Ronald Reagan. After stepping down as head of the company to run for public office, Bing turned over management duties to his three daughters.

As Bing—Mayor Bing—strode to the podium in Lender Auditorium at the Whitman School, an overflow crowd—its members as diverse in their interests as the athlete/entrepreneur/politician they had come to see—stood and cheered. In a poignant aside, Bing prefaced his address, “Detroit’s Next Chapter: A Team of Change,” by revealing a bit of himself. “I hope I don’t get

Alumni mayors
Stephanie Miner ’92 of Syracuse and Dave Bing ’66 of Detroit exchange greetings at the Whitman Day celebration in April.
At every level, from high school on up, I knew how important my teammates were to my success.”

—DAVE BING ’66

too emotional, because coming back here brings back a lot of good memories,” he said. “I just want to take you on my journey from my heart.” Ever the dutiful alumnus, he took another moment to introduce a member of his administration and her daughter, who had traveled to Syracuse to have a look at SU for college. “Orange still runs in my blood,” Bing said, explaining the impromptu recruitment effort.

Bing spoke on how his life as a student, professional basketball player, and entrepreneur had led him on the path to Detroit City Hall. The theme pervading all these experiences is the necessity of teamwork to get things done. “At every level, from high school on up, I knew how important my teammates were to my success,” he said.

Turning to the problems he faces as mayor, Bing spoke frankly about the corruption and economic decay that have brought Detroit to the verge of bankruptcy with a $325 million deficit. He outlined plans for streamlining a bloated city bureaucracy and making regional alliances with neighboring counties to reduce the cost of basic services, including police, fire, and homeland security. Among the greatest tasks confronting Bing is a physical restructuring of the city to reflect the loss of one million people, more than half of its former population. “I’ve got to shrink the city,” he said. “We have an area of about 140 square miles, but we’re only using about half that land mass. We have 70,000 vacant homes in the City of Detroit. Our plan is to tear down 10,000 of those houses and rehabilitate others. There are blocks and blocks where there is perhaps one family. We can’t provide them services.” He spoke of gaining greater international trade benefits from Detroit’s position at the Canadian border, deriving more revenue from the city’s downtown casinos, and even the possibility of redeveloping urban land for industrial-scale farming. Bing emphasized that teamwork will be the key to accomplishing any of this. “You’ve got to have people you trust around you,” he said.

During a question-and-answer session, Bing advocated a city takeover of Detroit’s ailing public school system. He also identified health care as the fastest growing source of jobs in the city where automobile manufacturing was once so dominant.

“The economic development of a major U.S. city, such as Detroit, is highly beneficial for the business community—a driving force behind revitalization,” said Whitman School Dean Melvin T. Stith G’73, G’78. “Mayor Bing is a perfect person to lead this effort. His entrepreneurial background and experience in the private sector will be a great advantage to the city and region as it transitions into a new economy.”

Detroit’s losing streak could be coming to an end.

—David Marc
HISTORY LESSONS ON STAGE

TWO ACTORS STAND, BACKS TO THE AUDIENCE, ARMS EXTENDED to each side. The first, a man in Elizabethan dress, jumps around to face the audience, reciting a soliloquy. “O for a Muse of fire, that would ascend the brightest heaven of invention,” he says, moving around the stage. He freezes. The second actor, a woman in jeans, sneakers, and flat-brimmed hat, continues the rhyme with a hip-hop flare. She freezes. He begins again. They throw the verse back and forth, each line shorter than the last, until they recite the same line, at the same time. “Gently to hear, kindly to judge, our PLAY,” they say, and their hands meet. They fall to the floor, roll in slow motion, and suddenly stop. Looking bewildered, they move around the stage, disoriented, and bump into each other, back to back. They scream. This Shakespearian actor and this modern hip-hop artist have traveled through time. Now, they must learn to understand each other and figure out how to return home. They comically discuss the English language, poetry, and their different styles. By the end, despite their differences, they realize they are both performers and the spoken word is their medium.

This is Hip-Shake, a production of Syracuse Stage’s Backstory, an educational program started in 2005 by Lauren Unbekant, director of educational outreach. “The best word to describe the style is quirky,” says drama major Matt Smith ’11, who played Globe Theatre actor Richard Burbage in Hip-Shake, opposite Farasha Baylock ’12, the fictional hip-hop artist Nefertiti. “The show is extremely movement-based, and the process is about the physical creation of the character first and scene development second.”

Backstory produces one- or two-person shows geared toward teaching students in Central New York about history through performance. While Hip-Shake introduces students to two artists living almost four centuries apart, other performances have featured such fictional and historical characters as Rosie the Riveter, Anne Frank, and Harriet Tubman. The program runs in conjunction with a drama department class taught by Unbekant, allowing acting students to develop short pieces depicting historical characters or typical people from a given era. Each semester, two or three pieces are expanded into full shows. “I wanted to give the students watching a more exciting way to learn history,” she says. “And I wanted to give SU students an opportunity to engage their skill set in new ways and to have ownership over their artistic expression.”

Backstory’s unique style and creative process set it apart from similar programs. “It’s a very physical style,” says Kathleen Wrinn ’09, a former student of Unbekant’s. After graduating, Wrinn returned to SU to perform at the Everson Museum of Art in Woman in the Blue Dress, a Backstory piece written by Unbekant about Henriette Henriot, a French actress and the subject of the famous Renoir painting, La Parisienne. “I had always been interested in playwriting, but I never knew how to start,” Wrinn says. “In Backstory, the approach was to find a historical figure, idea, or group of people you were interested in personally, and begin researching through art, music, and primary sources. We were encouraged to find pieces that we enjoyed, bring those elements together, and see how the character and story started to form themselves.”

Wrinn’s experience exemplifies what Unbekant wanted the program to offer drama students. “For me, Backstory was like a happy accident,” Wrinn says. “I enrolled in the class on a whim, and it ended up being my favorite at SU. It gave me confidence in myself as a writer and actor. These pieces ask a lot of you. You have to dig deep, and you start to realize what you can really do.”

—Kate Morin
Atlanta’s Ebenezer Baptist Church, home pulpit of the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., is known throughout the world as an historical focal point of the struggle for racial equality. The famed church served as an appropriate location in April for “Never Too Late For Justice,” a conference hosted by the College of Law’s Cold Case Justice Initiative (CCJI), bringing together family members of civil rights-era murder victims whose killings remain legally unresolved. Many of the cases were never seriously investigated or prosecuted, including some in which suspects freely admitted guilt. “Murder has to mean something,” says Janis McDonald, the Bond, Schoeneck & King Distinguished Professor of Law. “We want to make clear to people, this is not finished business.”

McDonald and law professor Paula C. Johnson are co-founders of CCJI, which organizes faculty and students to review documents and interview witnesses in attempts to provoke interest among law enforcement officials in pursuing what are often dismissed as “cold” cases. “These cases are not ‘cold’ for the families,” Johnson says. “We and our students can do the work of investigators and fact finders, and try to determine theories to take to authorities.”

The weekend conference brought together some 70 members of 30 families who lost loved ones in what Johnson described as “acts of race-based domestic terrorism.” Meeting in private sessions, the families shared experiences, identified common needs and goals, and learned more about the work of CCJI. Some family members spoke with reporters. Willie Brewster Jr. was 7 years old in 1965 when his father was shot to death near Anniston, Alabama. “I’m ready and excited to meet those other people,” Brewster told The Anniston Star. “I’m not scared to talk about anything, and I’m hoping that some kind of justice can come from this.” Elizabeth Welch—whose uncle, Rogers Hamilton, was spirited away from the family’s rural home and brutally murdered 53 years ago—expressed similar sentiments. “We’re looking for answers, mostly,” she said. “We know so little about what happened, and we’re looking to the other families to see how they have dealt with it.”

The conference featured a panel discussion led by McDonald and Johnson, exploring the historical impact of the killings and the implications for society in failing to resolve them. A concert was offered by renowned gospel singer Mavis Staples, who performed at a CCJI event in Syracuse last winter. Speaking on behalf of the University, Chancellor Nancy Cantor said, “We are deeply honored to host this unprecedented gathering in this hallowed location for families for whom justice has been too long delayed.”

McDonald saw benefits from the conference for all involved. “The families were energized by the common understandings they discovered in their struggles for justice,” she says. “I believe the SU law students, alumni, administrators, and professors came away with a renewed determination to assist them. As one immediate result, seven law student interns will be working full time for us this summer in Natchez, Mississippi, and in Atlanta and Syracuse.” Johnson believes the basic desires for accountability and justice expressed by family members at the CCJI Atlanta retreat reflect the wishes of many more families who lost loved ones to racial violence during that era. “These families deserve justice as a matter of right,” she says. “Our job is to support them by using our skills and training to make our profession—and society—live up to the ideals of equal justice by correcting these lingering wrongs.”

—David Marc
HE WAS A BOSTON NATIVE WITH THE ACCENT TO PROVE IT; A FLY-FISHING JUNKIE WHO MADE A PILGRIMAGE TO MONTANA EVERY YEAR; A JOURNALIST WHO HAD WORKED IN TELEVISION, NEWSPAPER, AND MAGAZINE; AND A SMART ALEC, FOREVER PRODUCING VERBAL ZINGERs. BUT MOST OF ALL, BILL GLAVIN WAS A TEACHER. AND THAT’S HOW HE WAS REMEMBERED—WITH A GREAT OUTPOURING OF LOVE AND GRATITUDE—FOLLOWING HIS DEATH IN MAY AT AGE 67.

Glavin joined the Newhouse School’s magazine department faculty in 1973. He was 30 years old and had already found success in journalism, working on The Boston Globe’s news desk before joining Good Housekeeping as an editor. He was being groomed for the magazine’s top editorial position, but he left New York for academia. Although he later said he knew next-to-nothing about teaching when he arrived in Syracuse, he had clearly found his calling, as legions of students would later attest. “He was legendary as a great instructor and advisor,” former student Joseph D’Agnese ’86 says. “[But] the thing that really set Glavin apart is what happened outside the classroom. He was known as a teacher who cared deeply about students, and he gave of himself again and again without hesitation.”

It was his skill and dedication that earned him the respect of students and colleagues alike. “The Glavin formula was part pure-and-simple work ethic and part pure-and-simple magic,” says Melissa Chessher, chair of the magazine department. “There will never be another Glavin. He was the perfect storm of passion, talent, and sacrifice.”

Glavin taught for 37 years, including 15 as department chair, and never once reduced his course load, according to Chessher. He was in his office every weekday, and sometimes Saturdays, because he always wanted to be accessible to his students. “The great message of his career was that students come first,” she says.

That dedication led to his being chosen as one of the first three recipients of Syracuse University’s highest teaching honor—the Meredith Professor for Teaching Excellence—in 1995. In 2008, the Glavin Magazine Lab was funded and named in his honor by Stacey Mindich ’86, one of D’Agnese’s classmates.

Late last spring, Glavin was diagnosed with lung cancer. When news of his illness went public, the Newhouse School set up a website (glavin.syr.edu) where friends and former students could leave well-wishes. Messages of love and support flooded the site, and continued to come even after his death on May 7. “Your lessons and advice pop into my head at least a few times every day, and I’m a better person and professional because of them,” wrote one alumnus. “I proudly count myself among the many who can trace back much of my drive to tell good stories—and tell them well—to what I learned in your classes,” wrote another.

But Glavin had always been modest about his teaching skills, perhaps even embarrassed by the adoration. “I think they give me too much credit for having changed their lives,” he said in a recent interview with a student. “I tell them, ‘No, I didn’t do that. You knew how to do that already. I just helped you.’” —Wendy S. Loughlin

In his final days, Professor Glavin established an internship fund to provide financial assistance to deserving magazine students. Donations may be made to the Bill Glavin Endowed Internship Fund, S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, 215 University Place, Room 400, Syracuse NY 13244-2100; or online at campaign.syr.edu (indicate Glavin Fund).
VETERANS LISTENING PROJECT » SOLDIER STORIES

THE GRIM REALITY OF WAR RESONATES IN A CONVERSATION between Vietnam veteran John Allis and Marine Sgt. Andrew Young G’10, a combat photographer who served multiple tours in Iraq. The two answered the call of duty four decades apart, but they voice an understanding of each other’s experience:

“There were times when I’ve never been more frightened in my life...” Allis says. “That kind of fear I never want to feel again.”

“I know exactly what you’re talking about. I should be dead at least twice, if not three times, by now,” Young says.

Their exchange was one of several one-on-one conversations between veterans, family members, and friends captured by the Veterans Listening Project (www.veteranslisteningproject.org), which presents the veterans’ stories in their own words through voice recordings and video portraits. Co-executive producers Brad Horn G’10, a Newhouse graduate student in multimedia photography and design, and Newhouse professor Bruce Strong developed the project in conjunction with the StoryCorps, a non-profit organization that allows people nationwide to record and preserve the stories of family and friends. They believe the experience can be cathartic for veterans and necessary for civilians.

“We ask them to risk everything to go to war for us,” Strong says. “This is an opportunity for veterans to tell their stories and for people to start to understand the cost for our veterans in order for them to be what we’ve asked them to be.”

The idea to record veterans’ stories came about in spring 2009 while Horn and Strong were working on News21, a national initiative to train student journalists in new media that the Newhouse School is involved in. Horn was familiar with the work of StoryCorps and had also read an article about Albany therapist Edward Tick, who discussed how communities should open up gathering spaces to hear veterans’ stories. Horn connected with StoryCorps organizers, who felt the idea to tell veterans’ stories complemented its National Day of Listening, held the day after Thanksgiving, to encourage one-on-one conversations. “We were inspired by StoryCorps, and they were thankful for what we were doing to promote them,” Horn says.

Students, including web designer and photojournalism major A.J. Chavar ’10, and Professor Ken Harper helped put the pieces together, and staff members at local NPR stations WAER and WRVO assisted with the audio recordings. The Newhouse School provided seed funding, and two other News21 participants—Arizona State University and the University of Southern California—recorded conversations and attached still portraits.

The entire project was capped off with an hour-long program on WAER, “Veterans, We’re Listening,” which focused on issues involving returning veterans and the Veterans Listening Project (www.waer.org/veterans.html). “It was really exciting to see that people care about doing creative journalism,” Horn says. “They care about veterans’ experiences. They care about what their neighbors are doing.”

Young, a student in the Newhouse School’s Military Photojournalism program, appreciated the opportunity to connect with another veteran and share his experience. “I hope people will take away an awareness of what veterans have to say about their service,” he says.

—Kathleen Haley
PROJECT: Causes and Mechanisms of Focused Exhumation Along the Denali Fault, Eastern Alaska Range

INVESTIGATORS: Paul Fitzgerald (with SU students and in collaboration with scientists and students from University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and University of California, Davis)

DEPARTMENT: Earth Sciences

SPONSOR: National Science Foundation

AMOUNT AWARDED: $139,856 (2010-2012)

BACKGROUND: Since the 2002 Denali earthquake (7.9 magnitude) in the eastern Alaska Range, scientists have focused on how much slip and convergence occurs along the 1,200-kilometer-long Alaskan Denali Fault system. Similar in part to the San Andreas Fault of California, the Denali Fault features extreme mountainous terrain along parts of its length associated with basins in some areas. The location of these mountains and basins and the timing of their formation with respect to geologic structures and plate boundary forces will be used to determine the distribution of crustal deformation through time. The eastern Alaska Range, one part of the topographic signature of the eastern Denali Fault, rises dramatically from the tundra to sharp glaciated peaks reaching 4,000 meters in height, forming a narrow but high-relief region immediately north of the fault. As the fault continues west, the topography drops significantly, then rises again to form the central Alaska Range, home to Mt. McKinley and Denali National Park. Uplift of the Alaska Range is related to plate boundary processes—such as subduction of the Pacific plate under North America and collision of the Yakutat microplate with southern Alaska. However, when and why the uplift occurs along the eastern Denali Fault remains unclear. The proposed research seeks to understand the time-temperature history of rocks in the eastern Alaska Range and hence determine regional patterns of exhumation and uplift over approximately the last 30 million years.

Project investigators will undertake a high-resolution multi-technique thermochronological approach combined with mapping of rock types and measurements of structures within the rock units along the eastern Denali Fault. This approach will document variations in exhumation rates, allowing scientists to understand local exhumation patterns in the mountains associated with the shape and location of various faults. Structural studies will focus on the regions with the most extreme exhumation, both in terms of rate and total amount, to understand what controls these patterns with respect to near-field boundary conditions (for example, geometry of the Denali and related faults). Linking the structural history to exhumation rates will permit scientists to evaluate the temporal and spatial influence of such geodynamic drivers as changes in Pacific versus North America plate motion, dip of the subducting slab, and the collision of buoyant Yakutat block.

IMPACT: This study has relevance to fundamental problems of major strike-slip fault systems, including what causes localized exhumation and how strike-slip deformation is transferred into the lower crust. By providing a better understanding of contributing factors for the formation of the mountains and hence seismic behavior along the fault, the results will contribute to the region’s earthquake hazard predictions and seismic hazard maps. The Trans-Alaska oil pipeline and future $26 billion Alaska gas pipeline cross the eastern Alaska Range and Denali Fault. The pipeline is designed to withstand strike-slip motion, but the effects of a significant vertical component could break the pipeline and be disastrous. Current natural gas exploration in the Tanana Basin, north of the study area, would also benefit from the research because the region's basin development is, in part, a flexural response to mountain building. The outcome of this research is therefore of interest to the public in Alaska and elsewhere and a wide range of Earth scientists. The project also integrates research with teaching, providing training for four young scientists. A science journalist will collaborate with the group on fieldwork and write essays for newspapers and magazines about the remote mountain research experience to bring science to the general public.
Breuer: A Designer’s Creative Process

MARCEL BREUER (1902-81), ARCHITECT AND FURNITURE DESIGNER, WAS DESCRIBED BY Time as a “form-giver of the 20th century.” Born in Hungary, Breuer studied at the Bauhaus, the renowned German design school, and achieved early fame for furniture designs incorporating the hollow metal tubes used in bicycle handlebars. He left Germany in 1931, eventually settling in Boston, where he taught at Harvard and formed an architectural partnership with Walter Gropius, his Bauhaus mentor. Establishing his own firm in 1941, Breuer designed some of the most influential modern houses in America. His large-scale commissions include the Whitney Museum in New York City (1966). Responding to a proactive invitation from Syracuse University Library (SUL), Breuer donated papers, drawings, blueprints, and photographs during the 1960s. These holdings were significantly enhanced with donations from Constance Breuer following her husband’s death.

In 2009, SUL’s Special Collections Research Center was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to make the Breuer collection more accessible to scholars and the public. The project will fully process some 40,000 items from Syracuse and, in partnership with the School of Architecture, produce a digital scholarly reference work that connects works from the Smithsonian Institution, Harvard, and elsewhere. This new resource will offer unparalleled opportunities to observe Breuer’s creative process.

—David Marc

PICTURED:
Breuer’s exterior rendering and floor plan for his own Cape Cod vacation home (ca. 1948). In the photograph, Constance Breuer looks on as the architect engages their son, Tomas, in a game of chess at the Wellfleet, Massachusetts, cottage.

Images courtesy of SU Special Collections Research Center
Biology professor Mark Ritchie has spent many a day digging into the soils of rangelands in the American West and Africa, studying the biodiversity of ecosystems and the impact of interactions between wildlife and plants. A productive rangeland ecosystem features flourishing vegetation that pulls carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere during photosynthesis and sequesters the carbon in plant roots and soil—a valuable asset that naturally reduces carbon dioxide emitted by burning fossil fuels, the main culprit in global warming. At the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania, where he has conducted research since 2004 in continuing a long-term study originally begun by SU professor emeritus Sam McNaughton, Ritchie notes a parallel between wildlife grazing intensity and carbon levels in the soil. Heavily grazed areas—where, for instance, migrating wildebeests regularly feed—contain greater accumulations of carbon than areas with scarce wildlife populations. “In areas depleted of wildlife, there’s not much grazing going on, so they accumulate dead grass and burn too often, and there’s basically not as much carbon accumulation as there could be, or they are actually suffering ongoing losses of carbon,” Ritchie says. “So, my thought was that if you could build back up the wildlife numbers in these depleted areas, you could create a lot of carbon storage.”

For Ritchie, the idea presents a monumental opportunity. As governments and industries around the globe wrestle with ways to cut greenhouse-gas emissions and curb climate change, Ritchie envisions a vital role for rangelands as vast carbon sinks. After all, rangelands—uncultivated, non-forested land, from the plains and prairies of North America to the grasslands of Africa—account for about one quarter of the Earth’s land surface. Focusing on the savannas of East Africa, Ritchie believes a widespread combination of improved wildlife conservation and land-management practices, including wildfire controls, could remove more than a billion tons of atmospheric carbon dioxide each year and create a viable source of income for impoverished rural and farming communities in East Africa—such as the traditionally nomadic Maasai tribes—through the sale of carbon credits on emerging emissions-trading markets. “By far the biggest capacity for storing carbon in soil is in the rangelands,” he says. “Most people aren’t thinking about what’s going on in the soil.”

As a way of putting his theory to the test, Ritchie assembled an interdisciplinary team of SU faculty members: University Professor David Driesen, a climate-change law expert; economics professor Peter Wilcoxen, director of the Center for Environmental Policy and Administration at SU; and geography professor Jane Read, who specializes in remote-sensing and satellite imagery analysis. Supported by a two-year, $125,000 Chancellor’s Leadership Project grant, the team is developing a unique methodology for quantifying rangeland carbon storage and investigating the possibility of selling the sequestered carbon as a commodity. Ritchie has met with nongovernmental organization administrators and government officials in East Africa to apprise them of the idea, and has established Soils for the Future, a start-up company that will develop carbon storage projects there. “Mitigating rural poverty in Africa is a significant challenge,” Ritchie says. “There aren’t many feasible options, given the lack of investment capital.”

The project’s most daunting task is creating a method to accurately quantify sequestered carbon and validate and monitor it as a credit for sale on the market. “From the standpoint of the climate-change law regime, the main legal and policy issues revolve around what constitutes a bona-fide credit,” Driesen says. The principal concern, he notes, is that if a greenhouse-gas producer, such as a coal-fired electric utility, is allowed to increase its emissions by purchasing “credits” for carbon sequestered elsewhere, those credits must be legitimate. They also must satisfy criteria for “additionality,” meaning that credits must be generated by a change in practice and also benefit the environment beyond what a business may do as part of its normal operations. “With carbon credits you run into controversy because people want to know that the quantity and permanence they’re getting are equivalent to what they’re giving up when carbon credits are used to justify increased emissions somewhere else,” Driesen says. “With any kind of carbon sequestration project, developing methodologies
to satisfy the legal regime has been difficult because of the variability in biological processes."

The impact of such factors as seasonal changes, weather, fires, vegetation, and grazing must be considered in soil carbon sequestration, as well as how to measure it over vast areas and periods of time. As a way to quantify and validate carbon storage, Ritchie and Read are exploring a methodology that incorporates field data with spatial and spectral information gathered from the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) satellite system. Each pixel of an image captured by MODIS represents a defined area of about 250 square meters, while the light an object absorbs or reflects from different bands of the electromagnetic spectrum helps define it. Healthy vegetation, for instance, can be distinguished by analyzing differences between the red and near-infrared bands and the heat emitted by the landscape. "Our goal is to gain insight into vegetation density, fire frequency, soil temperatures/moisture, etc.," Read says. "Linking the remotely sensed-derived products with field data, we hope to compare differences between grazed and non-grazed areas and assess performances of different remote-sensing algorithms."

While Read and Ritchie believe their work, which involves computer modeling to scale up field measurements to large tracts of land, may allow them to measure and monitor carbon sequestration with some degree of reliability, they both admit it's a challenge. But if they succeed, they may provide the scientific community with a groundbreaking methodology. "There is currently much ongoing research with remotely sensed data for carbon monitoring for forests," Read says. "However, less has been done for savanna systems."

If their methodology offers reliable measurements and verification, it can clear the way for trading sequestered rangeland carbon as an economic venture. Right now, protocols are being developed for different kinds of sequestration projects to trade credits on contract. For example, the European Union emissions-trading program only allows credits for afforestation and reforestation projects as carbon catchers. As Wilcoxen points out, soil carbon sequestration is one piece of a very large puzzle dealing with climate change, but if it proves a viable option, there's great economic potential. "Looking at the precision of the sensing technology and how accurately we can quantify what's in the soil will determine the riskiness of the assets," he says. "If it turns out the precision is relatively good and the uncertainty is not so bad, that it can be applied to certain soil types and certain land conditions, then the potential goes from being just academic to practical."

With so many fluctuating factors, Ritchie says the group will continually analyze data and make adjustments. "You're always learning as you go," he says. "You're not following a Julia Child recipe—that's what makes people nervous about it." It's this challenge that makes the project intriguing—and the potential rewards all the greater. "If you can go into East Africa and convert tens of millions of acres to doing these kinds of carbon projects, the cash infusion to the people and local economies will be transformative," Ritchie says. "I see it as a way to change the world."

—Jay Cox
Orange women’s lacrosse midfielder Christina Dove ’10 (12) helped SU return to the NCAA Final Four for the second time in the past three years. Dove led the team in scoring and finished her career as one of the top scorers in the sport’s history. She is tied for ninth on the NCAA Division I career goals list (250) and is 11th in career points (335). She earned All-America First Team honors along with goalie Liz Hogan ’11, who led the nation in saves.

NEWS MAKERS

SU Trustee Arielle Topper Madover ’94 produced Red, a Broadway hit that won six Tony Awards, including best play. The drama, about abstract expressionist painter Mark Rothko, collected the most awards at the event.

Donald W. Meinig, Maxwell Research Professor of Geography Emeritus, was elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the world’s most prestigious honor societies.

Jaklin Kornfilt, professor of languages, literatures, and linguistics, received the 2010 Humboldt Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, which promotes academic collaborations in Germany among top scholars and scientists from around the world.

The Newhouse School collected two 2009 Mark of Excellence Awards from the Society of Professional Journalists. “Tough Choices, Tough Times,” a special report that was part of the school’s annual Student Voice Project, was the national winner in the online in-depth reporting category. More than 50 students and faculty members worked on the report, which explored how the economy affected 18- to 25-year-olds. MPI Magazine, produced by the school’s military photojournalism program, was a national finalist in the best student magazine category. Fifteen students created the project’s multimedia content.

Donald I. Siegel, Meredith Professor for Teaching Excellence and a longtime faculty member of the Earth sciences department, was appointed to a three-year term as chair of the Water Sciences and Technology Board of the National Research Council.

The Bitter Chalice, a screenplay co-written by Beverly Allen, a professor of French, Italian, and comparative literature, was named best feature-length screenplay in a competition for unproduced scripts at the Roma Independent Film Festival.

The 2010 issue of Stone Canoe, an arts journal published by SU, was awarded a silver medal in the anthology category at the Independent Publisher Book Awards celebration in New York City this spring. The journal’s editor, Robert Colley, is an associate dean at University College.

College of Law graduate Gregory D. Erikson L’10 received the 2010 Burton Award for Distinguished Legal Writing. His article, “Breaking Wind, Fixing Wind: Facilitating Wind Energy Development in New York State,” was published in the Syracuse Law Review (Volume 60, Book 1) and was one of 15 works selected nationwide for the annual award, which recognizes law students and practitioners for exceptional writing.

The seventh annual Syracuse International Film Festival will be held October 13-17 in venues across Syracuse. Among the highlights of this year’s festival will be the premiere of Session, a psychological thriller directed by Haim Bouzaglo that was filmed in Syracuse in 2007. For more information, visit www.syrfilm.com.

SPORTS NOTES

Orange All-America forward Wes Johnson ’11 was the No. 4 pick in the 2010 NBA Draft, going to the Minnesota Timberwolves, where he’ll join Jonny Flynn ’11, a first-round selection last year. The New York Knicks scooped up guard Andy Rautins ’10 as the 38th player taken in the draft, giving him the opportunity to play in SU’s favorite home away from the Dome—Madison Square Garden.

Former SU head football coach Dick MacPherson was enshrined in the College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, Indiana, in July.

SU men’s lacrosse longstick midfielder Joel White ’11, defenseman John Lade ’11, and goalie John Galloway ’11 were named to the U.S. Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (USILA) All-America First Team. Seven other SU players received All-America recognition as well. In addition, the USILA honored White as the nation’s best midfielder, and Galloway as the country’s top goaltender. Galloway was also named to the 2010 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America Men’s At-Large Second Team.
THE CLASS OF 2010 celebrated Commencement on May 16 in the Carrier Dome. Here are some facts and highlights:

**Degrees Awarded:** 4,760 (SU); 537 (SUNY ESF).

**Class Marshals:** Kate Pettitt Callahan, College of Human Ecology and the College of Arts and Sciences; Timeka N. Williams, Newhouse School and the College of Arts and Sciences.

**Student Speaker:** University Scholar Sarah DiGiulio, Newhouse School and the College of Arts and Sciences.

**Honorary Doctoral Degree Recipients:**
Elizabeth Catlett, artist; Gerald B. Cramer ’52, investment advisor, philanthropist, and SU trustee; Jamie Dimon, chairman and CEO of JPMorgan Chase & Co.; Claire Mintzer Fagin, nursing, health care, and higher education administrator; Ronald Meyer, president and COO of Universal Studios; and George Allen Weiss, founder of Say Yes to Education.

**Commencement Speaker:** Jamie Dimon

*From Dimon’s Address:* “Regarding what you do, and what you achieve in life, try to leave everything and everybody that you touch a little bit better than they were before. Continue to be true to yourself and your values, be resilient, be honest, be humble, never stop holding yourselves accountable, and you will not only have the kind of life you wish and deserve, you will also do your part to make this country and the world a better place for generations to come.”

To see more Commencement photos, go to http://photo.syr.edu/Events/156commencement2010/index.htm.
ACCELERATOR PROGRAM SPARKS STUDENT VENTURES

SOME STUDENTS JUST CAN’T WAIT TO START their own businesses. The Syracuse Student Start-up Accelerator, a cross-campus initiative, feels their ambition and is helping them turn their ideas into functioning enterprises in advance of Commencement Day. After just a year in operation, the program, founded as a Chancellor’s Leadership Project, is already enhancing SU’s position as a national leader in entrepreneurship education, while supporting the University’s commitments to economic revitalization and community life in Central New York. “We’ve been teaching students how to develop proposals and plan businesses,” says Bruce R. Kingma, associate provost for entrepreneurship and innovation. “Now we’re taking things to the next level. We’re fostering actual student ventures by providing them with faculty and alumni guidance as well as a variety of beneficial opportunities created by our partners in the business community.” The CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity (formerly the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce), a primary partner in the initiative, provides downtown space for fledgling student enterprises, including Accelerator ventures, in the Syracuse Technology Garden, a gathering spot for the area’s tech-minded business folk and business-minded techies.

The student gateway into the program is its academic component, a two-course sequence consisting of What’s the Big Idea? (fall) and Idea 2 Startup (spring). Information studies professor Michael D’Eredita, who teaches the sequence, finds a mix of students attracted to the classes. “Some are quite focused on what they want to do and others just want to explore the possibilities of entrepreneurship or of starting a nonprofit organization,” he says. “They vet their ideas and we help them identify problems and figure out whether what they’ve got is a viable venture. In the process, students learn about each other and team up to form ventures.” An important aim of the fall semester, according to D’Eredita, is for students to become aware of the time, energy, and emotional commitment it takes to start a business. “That’s the passion component,” he says. “If they’re confident they have it, they move on to venture creation in the spring.”

Brand-Yourself.com, which describes itself as “an online reputation management platform” for job seekers, is by several measures the most successful venture to benefit from the Accelerator thus far. Recognized at the Kairos Global Summit as one of the top start-up companies of the past year, it is the first business to “graduate” from Accelerator support. In a blog posted in May on the iSchool’s Information Space (infospace.ischool.syr.edu), Pete Kistler ’11, the company’s CEO, praised the Accelerator program. “When you’re launching a company, you need a productive place to grow your team,” he wrote. “For young companies, there is nothing more important than having support, space, and advisors. SU is bringing together young entrepreneurs in a meaningful way to share ideas, share knowledge, and tap into the resources of the school and the region.” Other Accelerator start-ups currently doing business range from a chocolate manufacturer and a bicycle rental service to a nonprofit boxing club that is dedicated to helping at-risk kids.

D’Eredita sees the Accelerator at the core of a growing community of Central New York innovators that will help stem regional brain drain and economic stagnation. “When people come to Syracuse, we want them to know they can have more than education; they can have opportunity,” he says. The possibilities for the Central New York region presented by the program have attracted five area colleges to participate: Le Moyne College, SUNY ESF, SUNY Morrisville, Onondaga Community College, and Cayuga Community College. Kingma is working to further augment resources by enlisting the services of SU alumni from around the world. “The program is still in its infancy, but I see it taking off already,” he says. “It’s attracting the right students—the kind who are so ready to start companies and organizations that they don’t want to wait until after graduation.”

—David Marc
“I included Syracuse University in my estate plan because I wanted to ensure that future generations of students have the same opportunity to succeed as I did. I hope, by my example, to teach my sons the value of supporting education throughout their lifetimes—and beyond.”
—David Edelstein ’78

There’s no question. Taking care of your loved ones is the first priority of any well-thought-out estate plan. But once you’ve provided for family and friends, how do you ensure that your ideals and your passions live on? Leaving a bequest to Syracuse University is a simple, flexible, and powerful opportunity to do just that.

**Extend a Helping Hand to SU’s Future Generations**
When you name SU a beneficiary of your estate, you can specify how you want your gift to be used. Do you have a passion for the arts? Do you love exploring history? Would you like to support a specific program or department, endow an undergraduate scholarship, or continue making an annual gift? With a bequest, it’s easy to choose the gift option that best meets your individual circumstances and desires. You can, for example:

- Specify that SU will receive a percentage of the estate that remains after other beneficiaries are provided for.
- Designate SU the beneficiary of specific assets, such as securities, retirement funds, or real estate.
- Leave a specific dollar amount to SU.

But regardless of the method you choose, you can rest assured that your generosity will be felt on campus for years to come.

**How to Make a Plan**
Bequests don’t have to be big to have an impact. In fact, SU’s continued success is the direct result of thousands of bequests—large and small—made by alumni and friends. To learn how you can do the same, call 888.352.9535, or e-mail giftplan@syr.edu. For help on writing a bequest, visit giving.syr.edu/samplebequest.

**Be a Leader**
When you make a bequest, you’ll be recognized as a Syracuse University Pathfinder—joining a group of insightful leaders who have included SU in their long-term financial plans.
SEEDING SOLUTIONS TO ECO-CHALLENGES

IF RACHEL MAY EVER LAKES INSPIRATION to start her workday, she need only turn on the news. With heart-wrenching images from the Gulf Coast oil disaster and renewed questions about energy policy filling the airwaves, May views her work as SU’s coordinator for sustainability education as something of a calling. The University created the position last fall as part of an effort to ensure that all students graduate with a knowledge and awareness of climate change and sustainability issues. Such awareness, May believes, is a critical step toward solving the kind of challenges facing a culture that has yet to acknowledge that choices have consequences. “The things we take for granted now are changing life as we know it on Earth,” May says. “The Gulf oil spill should lead us to a major rethinking of why we’re using oil in the first place. And that’s not happening. People have not yet connected their personal behavior to the bigger problems. It’s very, very hard to do that. Helping to make students aware of these issues, and interested in being leaders on them, feels incredibly valuable to me.”

May began her academic career as a scholar of Slavic languages and literature, earning a bachelor’s degree from Princeton University, a master’s degree as a Marshall Scholar at Oxford University, and a Ph.D. degree from Stanford University. In 2001, she left a tenured position as professor of Russian at Macalaster College in St. Paul, Minnesota, to join her husband in Syracuse, where he teaches philosophy at Le Moyne College. Soon after, she decided to pursue her “other love”—a lifelong interest in the environment—by enrolling in graduate study at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF). Upon completing a master’s degree in environmental communications in 2003, she became director of the Office of the Environment and Society, a position jointly created by SU and ESF to promote collaboration in environmental initiatives.

In her new post at SU, May works with faculty across the disciplines to find ways to incorporate sustainability issues into coursework. As part of that effort, the vice chancellor’s office last year awarded grants to 12 faculty members for course development and engaging their students in a sustainability-related project for SU Showcase in April. During that event, May also oversaw the installation of a rain garden in the Waverly Avenue campus parking lot to mark the 40th anniversary of Earth Day. Designed by ESF graduate student Nick Zubin-Stathopoulos and installed by 55 students along with other volunteers, the garden can absorb 2,000 gallons of water, which in heavy downpours will reduce storm water runoff into sewage drains and reduce the likelihood of sewage overflows into local waterways. Just as important, May says, it serves as a crucial reminder of the University’s connectedness to those living “downstream” from campus.

Raising awareness of such connections within the larger ecosystem is essential to changing our ways, May says. And while she admits news of deep-water oil spills and climate change trouble her, she believes the same power of imagination that sparked the Industrial Revolution can be harnessed to put the country on a more environmentally responsible course. The next generation—including her 11-year-old daughter—is counting on it. “A lot of these things I do for her,” May says. “They are the generation that will see the fruits of what we do, whether good or bad. Keeping our focus on the people to come is really important, and that’s what keeps me grounded.”

—Carol Boll
Idriss Njike  | REWARDING EXPERIENCES

ERNIE DAVIS HALL RESIDENCE DIRECTOR IDRISS NJIKE G’09 remembers seeing a first-year student crying on the telephone. He invited her into his office and found out she was having trouble making friends and had told her parents she wanted to leave Syracuse. Njike settled her down, asked her about her interests, and encouraged her to join a club, telling her it’s a good way to meet like-minded people. “Next time I saw her, she’d been to a club meeting and was a different person,” he says. “Get involved. I always say that to students because I’ve seen that once they are involved in something they enjoy, their college experience changes for the better. They can always find a connection because there are so many ways to get connected.”

Njike revels in such moments. A recipient of the 2010 Inspiration Award of the Chancellor’s Awards for Public Engagement and Scholarship, he enjoys new experiences and challenges and helping students find their way. That should come as no surprise when you consider Njike’s own path. Interested in studying in the United States, he left the booming equatorial city of Douala in his native Cameroon for the frigid climes of the Midwestern town of Marshall, Minnesota, to attend Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU). It was culture shock to say the least, and he still laughs when he remembers his first encounter with hot cheese sauce and how disgusted he was that people drank chocolate milk for lunch—two American gustatory habits that would make French-influenced Cameroonians cringe. At SMSU, Njike earned a bachelor’s degree in business management and marketing and worked as a resident advisor and public safety officer. With encouragement from his supervisor, he explored higher education residence programs and landed a position with SU’s Office of Residence Life (ORL), where he has worked as an assistant or head residence director for the past four years. Last year, Njike was appointed to head Ernie Davis Hall during its transition from construction zone to 250-student residence hall. Along with the usual duties of guiding students, settling roommate disputes, and enforcing rules, he monitored the building’s ongoing construction and kept hall residents apprised of the progress, including the finishing touches on the gym. “It was definitely a challenge, but I loved every minute of it,” he says. “I’ll always be grateful for the students and their parents and their understanding. They were amazing.” He also studied up on the legendary Ernie Davis ’62, the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy, and did his part to ensure students knew Davis’s story. “I wanted everyone to know who Ernie Davis was,” says Njike, who was thrilled to meet Davis family members at the building’s dedication last fall.

He especially enjoyed learning the Orange great was a mathematics major. A numbers man himself, Njike balanced his workload with part-time studies at the Whitman School of Management, earning a master’s degree in finance. It’s a field that comes naturally to him, he says, recalling how as a youngster he would lend his allowance to friends with interest. He has given financial literacy seminars to ORL colleagues and students, and on an office shelf, next to a wooden map of Africa, sit several piggy banks, which he likes to hand out at seminars as a reminder that saving takes patience. Njike plans to leave Syracuse soon to pursue a finance career; ideally, one day, he would like to combine his finance and higher education backgrounds. For him, it would be a way to continue helping students—sharing the natural gift he has for connecting with them. “I’ve had the time of my life here,” he says. “Higher education is about mentorship, advising students. Having students come up and ask for help with a resume or a cover letter or with their French—that, to me, is the best reward.”

—Jay Cox
Odean Dyer

Bridging Communities

ONE OF ODEAN DYER’S LIFE-DEFINING MOMENTS CAME early. “I was about 5 years old when I first saw the Brooklyn Bridge,” says Dyer ’10, a native of the Bronx. “It was magnificent—so big and able to hold so much weight. I watched all the cars and trucks going over it and I was in awe. How could humans make such a thing? I decided I had to learn how to do this.”

By the time he reached high school, Dyer had set a goal for himself of becoming a civil engineer and to study that field at Syracuse University. But his high school guidance counselor told him he wasn’t good enough for SU—that he wasn’t college mate-

rial. “I took it upon myself to get into SU without his recommendation,” he says. “What one person says is not the final word. The person who has the final word is the one who does the work. I wanted to prove to him that he was wrong.”

Dyer credits his Jamaican-born parents for his well-developed sense of self. “They have this old-school mentality that no one is going to give it to you,” says Dyer, one of four children and the only son. “You have to believe in yourself if you are going to take your future to the highest heights.”

He believed so strongly that Syracuse was the place for him that it was the only university he applied to—and when he was accepted to the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science (LCS), he took great satisfaction in showing the acceptance letter to his guidance counselor. On a campus visit, Dyer found that the course of study at LCS wasn’t the only thing that appealed to him about SU. He was impressed by the beauty and layout of the University’s hilltop site, which added to his enjoyment of college life. “I like how the campus is set up,” he says. “You have the Quad in the middle and when you go from class to class, you can see all your friends.”

Having a social life—and a social conscience—was as important to Dyer as doing well in the rigorous civil engineering program. In his sophomore year, a brainstorming session he had with Paul Buckley, then-associate director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, led to the establishment of the Multicultural Empowerment Network (M.E.N.). “The goal of M.E.N. is to increase the awareness of multicultural males, to raise our visibility in the community,” Dyer says. “We need to be doers, not just talkers, and to become more involved in social issues both on and off campus.”

The group has developed a service-focused relationship with the Alliances of Communities Transforming Syracuse, volunteering in soup kitchens, and serving as mentors and tutors for school-children, among other socially oriented activities. For his work with the group and other organizations, Dyer received a 2010 Martin Luther King Jr. Unsung Hero Award from the University. “When I realized the full magnitude of what the award was, what it meant, I was taken aback,” he says. “I was doing things because I believed in them, not thinking I would be getting accolades for it. The award meant a lot to me, but it’s not the reason why I got involved. Although now it makes me want to push harder—knowing there are people out there seeing what I do and noticing the good work I’m trying to accomplish. It was really big.”

With Commencement behind him, Dyer plans to work for a few years, then earn a master’s degree and a Professional Engineering license, with the goal of owning his own company. “Engineering is my passion,” he says. “To see my name on a building—or even just to know I was part of the design of a structure—would be the ultimate feeling for me.” —Paula Meseroll
CLIFF DAVIDSON IS READY TO IGNITE AN ENGINEERING REVOLUTION. HE WANTS ENGINEERS to help lead the way in creating a sustainable society, one that considers the consequences of technology and development and takes a long-term view of our actions on the natural world. “The idea behind sustainable engineering is to reeducate the world’s engineers so they use their science to understand how things have to be redesigned,” he says. “Engineers are critically important in any type of sustainable development and have to take a leadership role in telling the politicians and other decision-makers what needs to be done. So we’re talking about a big change in the way engineers think and practice.”

These beliefs motivated Davidson to accept the Thomas and Colleen Wilmot Chair in Engineering at the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science and an appointment in the Syracuse Center of Excellence in Environmental and Energy Systems (SyracuseCoE) in 2009. For the previous 32 years, he was on the faculty of the departments of civil and environmental engineering and engineering and public policy at Carnegie-Mellon University, his undergraduate alma mater in Pittsburgh.

Davidson, an award-winning teacher and air-quality researcher who holds a Ph.D. degree in environmental engineering science from the California Institute of Technology, has spent most of his career focused on aerosol physics, earning an international reputation for his studies of atmospheric particles. More than a decade ago, however, his research interests shifted toward sustainable development. He recognized the need to further the cause and developed a course on the environmental effects of engineering decisions. “I found it harder to focus only on work with aerosol particles under a microscope when I saw what was going on in the real world,” he says. “That was a real driving force.”

For Davidson, the endowed chair provides the perfect opportunity to act on his beliefs. It connects him with the SyracuseCoE and, in particular, its involvement in the sustainable development of the city’s Near Westside. “The Near Westside presents tremendous opportunities you might not get in other areas for decades,” he says. “Since it’s targeted for development in a number of ways, I think it’s an open door for introducing the whole concept of sustainable neighborhoods with sustainable buildings and energy. It could move us closer to solving problems that plague cities all across the country.”

Davidson is in the sustainability arena for the long haul. And that should come as no surprise. After all, he is a marathon runner, and he and his wife, Megan, share a passion for the wilderness. They hike, camp, and consider themselves “winter enthusiasts.” This respect for the environment and a belief that engineers can help shape a sustainable future drive Davidson to share his knowledge with students and alert them to their role in preserving the planet. “We have to teach our engineering students about the link between engineering design and its impact on the natural world,” he says. “We have to emphasize the long-term, global picture and get our students to think holistically.” —Jay Cox
These are exciting times in the field of insurance law, according to Professor Aviva Abramovsky of the College of Law. Perhaps a bit too exciting. As chair of the Insurance Law Section of the American Association of Law Schools (AALS), Abramovsky occupies a leadership position in an area of legal scholarship that has been thrust into the media spotlight by such ongoing news stories as the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the debate over health care legislation, automobile safety recalls, the Gulf of Mexico oil spill disaster, and regulation of the financial industry. “The field of insurance law is much broader in scope than most people recognize,” Abramovsky says. “It covers all the familiar types of personal insurance, but in a larger sense it’s the study of the ways in which contracts can shift risk from one party to another.”

Abramovsky, who led a session on the AIG financial debacle at the 2010 AALS convention, is not surprised to find insurance so much on the public mind these days. “The principal product sold by the insurance industry is peace of mind through risk reduction,” she says. “Yet we’re experiencing a period of fundamental change in the very industry that is supposed to offer us stability.” With the passage of a Congressional health care bill, she points out, we have federal regulation of insurance, a power previously reserved to the states. At the same time, we are seeing a blurring of lines between private insurance and public forms of insurance, such as Social Security and Medicare, leading many to worry that the insurance companies they depend on are becoming more like a public utility or an agent of the government. “The result of all this is tremendous anxiety, and anxiety about insurance creates anxiety throughout the entire financial and commercial structure,” she says.

A member of the law faculty since 2004, Abramovsky offers courses on commercial transactions and professional responsibility as well as insurance law. No stranger to Central New York, she did her undergraduate work at Cornell, majoring in industrial labor relations. After completing law school at the University of Pennsylvania, she spent three years in private practice with Anderson, Kill & Olick P.C. in New York City and a year teaching at Florida State University in Tallahassee. For the past three years, Abramovsky has served as co-director of SU’s Law in London summer program, an educational experience whose virtues she doesn’t mind touting. “During its 30-year history, the London program has established relationships with barristers, solicitors, and other legal professionals who provide internships that allow our students to work with the top legal minds in the U.K.,” she says. Of all her activities at SU, Abramovsky places highest personal value on her participation on the College of Law committees chosen by the American Bar Association to evaluate Supreme Court nominees Samuel Alito and Sonia Sotomayor. “The opportunity to serve in that capacity has been the greatest honor in my life,” she says. “The Syracuse law faculty is doing many incredibly meaningful things. It’s such a pleasure to teach here.”

—David Marc
Yingyi Wu | Celebrating Chinese Culture

YINGYI WU ’11 REALIZES THE IMPORTANT REACH OF the Chinese Students and Scholars Association (CSSA) at Syracuse University. As CSSA president for the past two years, Wu did all she could to ensure new students from China are prepared for life in Syracuse and have opportunities to come together to celebrate and share their culture. Through the CSSA, she’s met with Syracuse-bound students and their families in Shanghai and offered advice on everything from appropriate winter wear to necessary cooking utensils. She takes pride in the CSSA’s extensive Internet forum and listserv network, which help students connect with one another. She also remembers the challenge of coordinating the group’s 2007 Mid-Autumn Festival, a traditional Chinese harvest celebration also known as the Moon Festival. “I didn’t know a lot of the people at that time and it was the first big event I ever organized,” says Wu, the youngest elected president in CSSA history. “I called a lot of people myself, and one week I used up 1,500 minutes on my cell phone.”

Since then, Wu has smoothed out many a detail, gathering and organizing information, building the association’s network of volunteers, and helping shape CSSA’s role in assisting Chinese students. The group—which serves upwards of 1,000 Chinese students, including ones at SUNY ESF and Upstate Medical University—reaches out to incoming students and their families through a series of informational meetings in Shanghai, Beijing, and Guangzhou, and provides a newcomers’ handbook with basic information about SU and the Central New York area. Last year, the group welcomed nearly 400 new students, arranging airport pickups and temporary housing and hosting a picnic at Jamesville Beach Park. Through its network, students connect for a variety of services and activities, including ride sharing, shopping excursions, and trips to other cities. “Our volunteers are very important,” Wu says. “If we didn’t have volunteers, we wouldn’t be able to provide these services.”

Wu’s leadership abilities have blossomed through her CSSA work and should serve her well as she pursues a career in the business world. An accounting major with a finance minor at the Whitman School of Management, she credits her mother for encouraging her to study abroad. Wu grew up in Suzhou, a city in the eastern province of Jiangsu renowned for its classical gardens. A competitive distance runner and basketball player in high school, Wu first visited the United States as an exchange student in 2001 and has traveled to such places as Disneyland and Las Vegas. Amid her studies, which include plans for graduate school and earning a certified public accountant license, she still likes to run in her free time. “I always run at Onondaga Lake Park,” she says. “I love that place.”

It’s a good tip for joggers—one Wu would gladly share with newcomers. As the organization grows, it continues to develop new offerings. Working with CSSA, SU Library established a dedicated space for Chinese language books and magazines. Group members interact with the local Chinese community, including such organizations as the Central New York Chinese School, sharing invitations to events. For Wu, it’s important for the CSSA to host such gatherings as the Moon Festival and the Spring Festival, which marks the start of the Chinese New Year, because she knows what they mean to Chinese students thousands of miles from home and family. “This kind of event makes them feel close together,” Wu says. “As I told them, although we don’t have our families with us, we have our friends, classmates, and roommates, and together we can celebrate this festival so we don’t feel lonely and stay at home.” —Jay Cox

Photo by Susan Kahn
ON A SINGLE DAY IN MAY, more than 100 of Syracuse University’s most highly motivated, articulate, and accomplished students made their way to the Tolley Humanities Center. Carrying paper binders, lab notebooks, DVDs, CDs, costume changes, and oversized portfolios, they came to present their Capstone Projects, the final—and for many, most demanding—requirement of the rigorous Renée Crown University Honors Program. Collectively, they had traveled across the country, around the world, up the street, and deep into virtual space to conduct research, examine rare phenomena, participate in community service projects, and become familiar with people they no longer think of as “others.”

Each fall, we have an informational meeting for juniors interested in doing a Capstone Project,” says Eric Holzwarth, deputy director of the Crown program. “I explain it to them this way: ‘Imagine you had two years to learn anything you wanted to learn in order to build, design, write, or create anything you want, and that you had the resources of a major university and the guidance of a faculty member to help you. What would it be?’”

Students representing 43 majors and all SU schools and colleges offering undergraduate degrees responded to that challenge by presenting Capstone Projects this year. Bertille Gaigbe-Togbe ’10, a biology major from Benin, in West Africa, took the opportunity to shed new light on “The Role of Estrogen Receptor expression in Estrogen-Induced Modulation of Immunity and Autoimmunity.”

Alec Sim ’10, a Whitman School student from Ohio who plays tuba and piano, visited opera houses in Berlin, Munich, and Milan to explore productions dominated by personal—often quirky—interpretations of directors in “Regie-theater Opera in the 21st Century.” According to Holzwarth, the number of students attempting capstones has nearly doubled since 2007, and the increase is reflected in an expanding range of subject matter. “Our students have started up campus magazines, such as Zipped and What the Health, they’ve gone to the Serengeti in Africa to tag elephants and lions, and we even have a few groups of students working on joint projects,” Holzwarth says. “There’s no such thing as a typical Capstone Project.” Nonetheless, here are four that caught our eye.
**Chad Cable ’10**

**DUAL MAJOR:** Computer art, College of Visual and Performing Arts  
Computer science, L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science

**HOMETOWN:** Pittsburgh

**JUST A FACT:** Cable served as co-president of the SU chapter of Campus Baptist Ministries in 2009.

**CAPSTONE PROJECT:**  
“The Great Teakon, A 3-D Video Game”  
Using off-the-shelf software, Cable created a fully functional, three-dimensional video game.

---

**Jen Hoi Ling Ha ’10**

**MAJOR:** Architecture (fifth year), School of Architecture

**HOMETOWN:** Boston

**JUST A FACT:** Ha received the Crown program’s Wise-Marcus 50-Year Friendship Award, which enabled her to conduct research firsthand in China.

**CAPSTONE PROJECT:**  
“Urban Stitch: Reinventing Housing in the Globalized Realm for Chinese Migrant Workers”  
Ha wrote a thesis concerning the explosive growth of Shenzhen, a rural fishing village that became a city of eight million in less than 30 years.

---

**Arielle Lever ’10**

**MAJOR:** Acting, College of Visual and Performing Arts

**HOMETOWN:** Baltimore

**JUST A FACT:** Lever played the title role in Syracuse Stage’s 2009 production of The Diary of Anne Frank.

**CAPSTONE PROJECT:**  
“Teaching Drama in South Africa: The Port St. Johns Theater Project”  
Lever taught theater as a means of expression at the Sisonke School (ages 4-12) and the Eluxoweni Boys Home, an orphanage (ages 12-17), in Port St. Johns, a rural community in South Africa’s Eastern Cape region.

---

**Elizabeth Goss ’10**

**MAJOR:** Illustration, College of Visual and Performing Arts, with a minor in English

**HOMETOWN:** Rutland, Vermont

**JUST A FACT:** Goss spent summer 2008 in New York City as an intern at Illustration House, the nation’s foremost gallery and auction house devoted to American illustration.

**CAPSTONE PROJECT:**  
“A Field Guide to the Irish Fantastic: A Study in Concept Art”  
Goss created a series of visual artworks inspired by Irish folklore, and used them to create a book and a gallery exhibition.
CHAD Cable ’10

CAPSTONE PROJECT:
“The Great Teakon, A 3-D Video Game”
Using off-the-shelf software, Cable created a fully functional, three-dimensional video game, which he has made available for the public to play at chadcable.net.

Why a video game?
The Capstone Project is supposed to be a culmination of our studies, a practical outcome of everything we’ve learned. Some students write research papers; I studied computer art and computer science, so I did a project that requires knowing something about both—a video game.

How does it work?
Players take control of Charles Teakon, a rising silent-movie star, as he films his next great blockbuster. The game lets you play through the movie, performing stunts until Charles breaks his leg. The game picks up 30 years later. Charles had to retire after the injury and he’s pretty depressed. When some old film buddies stop by to encourage him, Charles decides to remake his unfinished film and restore his name to fame. There are no winners or losers. It’s linear. It’s about the experience of being the character—role-playing—rather than about finishing first or winning a level or getting high score. It’s all from the perspective of the actor. It’s immersive. There are no “Game Over” screens or big bosses to face. Instead, players participate in Charlie’s life and live the silent film era through the game. Players are even affected by Charles’s age. At the beginning of the game, Charles is an athletic young man, able to run on walls and sprint far distances. After his 30-year retirement, Charles is much less capable. The player’s control over the character changes according to Charles’s age.

Where did you get the idea for the narrative?
It grew out of research I did on the silent film era. I had previously seen only a few clips or montages of silent films, and I was pretty astounded by the things they were able to do without computer-generated images or any special effects at all. The latter part of the game, when Charlie becomes depressed and socially isolated, also reflects the research I did. When sound movies started coming in at the end of the 1920s, a lot of silent film actors got displaced and their lives were changed.

What do you hope players will gain from the game?
The most important part of my project is giving people a new kind of video game. Most video games are in color; this one is black and white. Most are set in the future or prehistoric past; this one is set in early 1900s America. The game embraces film history and period architecture to create an engaging experience. Video games have a reputation for being overly violent, but this game does not give the player any way of inflicting damage on others or on the surrounding environment. Many games feature superheroes or monsters. There are very few games that feature a washed-up, depressed 50-year-old. This one explores character to create an absorbing narrative. It uses the medium to express concepts and engage players on an intellectually critical level, while providing a fun experience. I hope people will judge for themselves; the game is playable online. Give it a try.

Using off-the-shelf software, Cable created a fully functional, three-dimensional video game, which he has made available for the public to play at chadcable.net.

CHAD CABLE ’10

CAPSTONE PROJECT:
“The Great Teakon, A 3-D Video Game”
Using off-the-shelf software, Cable created a fully functional, three-dimensional video game, which he has made available for the public to play at chadcable.net.

Why a video game?
The Capstone Project is supposed to be a culmination of our studies, a practical outcome of everything we’ve learned. Some students write research papers; I studied computer art and computer science, so I did a project that requires knowing something about both—a video game.

How does it work?
Players take control of Charles Teakon, a rising silent-movie star, as he films his next great blockbuster. The game lets you play through the movie, performing stunts until Charles breaks his leg. The game picks up 30 years later. Charles had to retire after the injury and he’s pretty depressed. When some old film buddies stop by to encourage him, Charles decides to remake his unfinished film and restore his name to fame. There are no winners or losers. It’s linear. It’s about the experience of being the character—role-playing—rather than about finishing first or winning a level or getting high score. It’s all from the perspective of the actor. It’s immersive. There are no “Game Over” screens or big bosses to face. Instead, players participate in Charlie’s life and live the silent film era through the game. Players are even affected by Charles’s age. At the beginning of the game, Charles is an athletic young man, able to run on walls and sprint far distances. After his 30-year retirement, Charles is much less capable. The player’s control over the character changes according to Charles’s age.

Where did you get the idea for the narrative?
It grew out of research I did on the silent film era. I had previously seen only a few clips or montages of silent films, and I was pretty astounded by the things they were able to do without computer-generated images or any special effects at all. The latter part of the game, when Charlie becomes depressed and socially isolated, also reflects the research I did. When sound movies started coming in at the end of the 1920s, a lot of silent film actors got displaced and their lives were changed.

What do you hope players will gain from the game?
The most important part of my project is giving people a new kind of video game. Most video games are in color; this one is black and white. Most are set in the future or prehistoric past; this one is set in early 1900s America. The game embraces film history and period architecture to create an engaging experience. Video games have a reputation for being overly violent, but this game does not give the player any way of inflicting damage on others or on the surrounding environment. Many games feature superheroes or monsters. There are very few games that feature a washed-up, depressed 50-year-old. This one explores character to create an absorbing narrative. It uses the medium to express concepts and engage players on an intellectually critical level, while providing a fun experience. I hope people will judge for themselves; the game is playable online. Give it a try.

Using off-the-shelf software, Cable created a fully functional, three-dimensional video game, which he has made available for the public to play at chadcable.net.
Why did you choose to study Shenzhen?
China will have 200 “new cities” by 2015. Shenzhen was among the first of these cities. It was chosen for rapid urbanization in 1985, and tremendous foreign investment transformed it into an international port. The original farmers were some of the first people in China allowed to own land. They redeveloped their houses into tall apartment blocks for the migrant workers drawn to Shenzhen by new factory jobs. The buildings are narrow (about 30 feet by 30 feet) and densely packed (maybe four or five feet apart). It really looks like a slum. Researching the relationship of architecture to surrounding social conditions epitomizes my educational interests. Picking Shenzhen for the study was also a personal thing. I’m from Boston, but my parents are from Hong Kong, which is near Shenzhen, and my grandfather lives in Shenzhen.

How did you conduct your study?
I started by researching and understanding migrant housing types in relation to socioeconomic and political trends. After documenting logistics—building-unit sizes, demographic backgrounds of tenants, etc.—I conducted interviews with inhabitants and with other architects in the area to further understand the situation and needs of the city and its people. I have an interest in responding to social issues—for example, there are many parents and children who move into this city and live in these apartments, but the children are not allowed to attend the city schools because of their migrant status. I found that these people are pretty incredible at coming up with solutions to their cultural needs: school facilities, centers for the elderly, ancestral temples, and so on. The concrete apartment blocks may not have legal light and air or adequate plumbing, but compared to where most of the migrants have come from, this is definitely better. The government is considering tearing these apartment blocks down now because they give Shenzhen a bad city image—and that’s the problem I responded to most directly in my thesis. The urban village community needs to be revitalized as part of Shenzhen’s unique cultural character.

What did you conclude?
During the past quarter century, globalization and rapid urbanization have prematurely transformed China’s domestic architecture, replacing much of it with new market-oriented housing types. Migrant workers live in what I call eight-story urban villages, where they have maintained community networks and kinship ties to an amazing degree. The upper class lives in luxury high-rise towers, which are like vertical gated communities. The two housing types stand side-by-side, but they are segregated, resonating with tension between rich and poor. This is not the image of Chinese society the government wants. There are plans to build a new city image by demolishing the migrant worker apartments. If this is done, the city will further dislocate the migrant workers, inspiring discontent and provoking social and political disorder. China needs a housing policy favoring an integrated social fabric through creation of common residential, retail, and cultural space.

CAPSTONE PROJECT: “Urban Stitch: Reinventing Housing in the Globalized Realm for Chinese Migrant Workers”
Ha wrote a thesis concerning the explosive growth of Shenzhen, a rural fishing village that became a city of eight million in less than 30 years.

What did you conclude?
During the past quarter century, globalization and rapid urbanization have prematurely transformed China’s domestic architecture, replacing much of it with new market-oriented housing types. Migrant workers live in what I call eight-story urban villages, where they have maintained community networks and kinship ties to an amazing degree. The upper class lives in luxury high-rise towers, which are like vertical gated communities. The two housing types stand side-by-side, but they are segregated, resonating with tension between rich and poor. This is not the image of Chinese society the government wants. There are plans to build a new city image by demolishing the migrant worker apartments. If this is done, the city will further dislocate the migrant workers, inspiring discontent and provoking social and political disorder. China needs a housing policy favoring an integrated social fabric through creation of common residential, retail, and cultural space.

CAPSTONE PROJECT: “Urban Stitch: Reinventing Housing in the Globalized Realm for Chinese Migrant Workers”
Ha wrote a thesis concerning the explosive growth of Shenzhen, a rural fishing village that became a city of eight million in less than 30 years.
How did you come up with the idea for your project? I thought of doing a one-woman show, but I was at a place, artistically, where I wasn’t sure if I wanted to do that kind of self-promoting project. I was eligible for funding through the Crown program, and I decided that if I got it, I would do a project involving travel, helping people, and theater outreach. So I started Googling: volunteer, drama, teaching, developing nation. This led me to South Africa Volunteers, a grassroots organization in Port St. Johns that helped me organize my project. Prior to leaving home, I learned the Sisonke School was in jeopardy unless it moved to a new location, so I did a month of fund raising and was able to bring a $3,500 contribution.

How does the project relate to your academic work? I built a curriculum by drawing on research I had done on Augusto Boal, an Austrian who went to a small Brazilian community in the 1970s and founded the Theater of the Oppressed to give a voice to the residents through theater. I wanted to put Boal’s theory into practice by empowering the children with the tools necessary to create theater, using their voices, bodies, imaginations, and the raw materials surrounding them.

How did you conduct classes? The bulk of the acting work I did with students involved physical theater and performing with masks, which helped minimize language barriers. I brought about 30 masks, donated by their makers, which I gave to the school. The project evolved in its own ways. Students were so taken by the acting exercises that they demanded more, so I added workshops out of class. I developed a group, The Lunchtime Crew. They dedicated themselves to creating interactive educational skits—theater pieces for kids, by kids, raising real issues and encouraging problem solving. The crew’s most popular piece was “The Monkey Skit,” about the hazards of eating monkey meat. I also taught English, grades 2-3. Behavioral problems, including classroom fights, made that very difficult. Instead of getting frustrated, I used theater as a form of conflict mediation, developing exercises that forced the class to focus on the thoughts and feelings behind aggression. The disciplinary situation improved a lot before I left.

How would you sum up the experience? I arrived in Port St. Johns with a curriculum, a bag full of masks, and an eagerness to learn. I left a changed person, with a newfound perspective on life, teaching, and theater.
What led you to design the project?
A capstone should express something you’ve learned about something you love. As an illustrator, I wanted to do a creative project, and as a writer, I wanted to produce some kind of book. I’ve always had a strong interest in folklore and fairy tales. Ireland has an incredibly rich lore—it has always been a favorite—but I didn’t think of focusing completely on Ireland until a conversation I had with my advisor. He said, “That’s a lovely project, but haven’t you always wanted to go to Norway or something?” I said, “What do you mean?” He said, “Don’t you think the project would be stronger with an element of ‘abroad’ in it?” So I came back with the Irish proposal, applied for a Crown scholarship, got it, and went to Ireland for two weeks. The opportunity was a pretty fabulous thing. The trip turned out to be very important. In addition to being in Ireland for the first time, I was able to take my own reference photos, which is always very important to illustrators. If you use online sources, you get in all kinds of trouble with photographers. It’s always best to have your own images. It was an essential piece of the project. I used the photos to create a collection of concept sketches, color studies, finished art pieces, and brief stories inspired by Irish folklore. I combined these elements into two products: an illustrated field guide and an art show in the Honors Suite.

What do you mean by "concept art?"
Concept art refers to all of the preliminary artwork that goes into designing entertainment media, like movies, video games, comic books, etc. So if I was working for a movie studio, an animation director might come in and say, “I need a character. He’s sort of weak. He’s kind of cowardly, but he’s very big. He looks really tough, but he runs away from everything.” I should be able to come up with a character that not only fits those needs, but also looks like he belongs with the other characters. In Irish lore, there are different types of fairies. There are the trooping fairies who usually take credit for almost anything that goes wrong in a traditional Irish home—whether a child dying or milk spoiling. Then there are specific stories that revolve around specific fairies, such as leprechauns and banshees. They’re different, but they come out of the same place.

What did you gain as an artist in doing the project?
It was a wonderful opportunity to explore a possible profession. I hadn’t done much concept work. I hadn’t done much work digitally. It was really great for me to experiment with those things in a very structured project. I hope that in some small way my work helps to spread interest and knowledge about the fairy tales of Ireland.
RETURN TO LEIPZIG

AFTER ESCAPING NAZI GERMANY AS A YOUNG BOY, a longtime SU faculty member revisits his childhood and appears in a television show about his family

BY H. RICHARD LEVY
LAST OCTOBER, I returned to my hometown, Leipzig, Germany, for the first time in more than 70 years. The journey came about because of the efforts of Marianne Wintgen, a distant relative from Berlin who had been trying to locate me for years. Her inquiry to a Leipzig website caught the attention of the staff of *Die Spur der Ahnen* (“Traces of Ancestors”), a German reality television series featuring stories about family ancestry. Before sharing the story of my return, I need to tell you about events surrounding my departure.

THE DEPARTURE

I WAS BORN IN 1929, FOUR YEARS BEFORE Hitler came to power. During my childhood, German Jews suffered increasing oppression, culminating with *Kristallnacht* (“the night of broken glass”), November 9, 1938, when Jewish-owned shops and synagogues all over Germany were destroyed and thousands of Jewish men were arrested. Early the next morning, men pounded on our apartment door, shouting vile epithets about Jews. They told us to assemble immediately at a nearby location. At the last minute, my mother decided not to take my little sister, then only 10 months old, but left her with our trusted maid. It was a raw day. I walked between my
I was 9—and very frightened. As we got closer to our destination, I heard loud banging and thought, “They are killing Jews in there.” It turned out to be a shoe factory. The whole thing was a hoax to torment Jews. As we walked home, we met a lady who was very agitated and crying—it was the first time I saw an adult cry. The wife of a department store owner, she told us the store windows were smashed, the store had been looted, and the synagogue was set on fire. We met another acquaintance who said he was going to board a train and travel back and forth between Leipzig and Berlin until this blew over. My father said he would do the same, but only after checking on my grandfather and our family’s knitted goods factory, and call from there. The call never came. When we returned to our apartment, our nameplate was gone, a preface to our subsequent eviction. For more than a week, my mother tried frantically to locate my father. She eventually learned he had been viciously beaten and imprisoned, and was to be sent to Buchenwald, a concentration camp she had not heard of until then. I cried every day he was away and asked my mother how God could let this happen. My father was released 10 days after his arrest. Two things kept him from being shipped to Buchenwald: The Nazis needed him to sign documents so they could take over the factory; and his raw scar from cancer surgery led them to believe he might not survive the journey. Later on, no one had such scruples.

My parents already had plans to emigrate, but after Kristallnacht they realized the Nazi noose was tightening rapidly and my escape became their first priority. At the time, the British government agreed to grant refuge to a limited number of children under age 17. (A similar plan died in committee in the U.S. Congress.) The British Kindertransports, as they were called, were permitted by the Nazis on the condition that each child was allowed only one suitcase, no toys. During an eight-month period, some 10,000 children reached England from Germany and Nazi-occupied territories, escaping almost certain extermination. Why I was fortunate enough to be included, I do not know. Any parent can imagine the agonizing decision my parents made to send me, alone, 9 years old, not knowing if they would ever see me again. When I said good-bye to my father that morning, my mother knew I would never see him again as he was already mortally ill. He died six weeks later.

I left Leipzig on March 15, 1939, traveling by train to Holland and by boat to Harwich, England, and then boarding another train to London, where the children from the Kindertransports were billeted out to British families who had volunteered to take them.”
were billeted out to British families who had volunteered to take them. I went to the home of Bernard Schlesinger, a London pediatrician, and his wife, Win, the daughter of my grandfather’s cousin. They took me into their home to live with them and their five children, ranging in age from 6 to 13. The oldest, John, would later become a famous film director, known for such pictures as *Midnight Cowboy* and *Marathon Man*. The Schlesingers rescued 12 more Jewish children, placing them in a hostel they established in London and hiring a staff that looked after all the children’s financial, educational, social, and religious needs. We all owe our lives to this remarkable family.

After my father died, my mother tried desperately to escape with my sister, but the police had seized her passport and refused to return it. A former employee at our factory agreed to try to retrieve it, for a fee. But by that time, all Jews’ money had been confiscated; they merely received weekly subsistence allowances. Then, in an extraordinary twist of fate, my mother discovered some money that my father had left in his wallet after his final business trip. She used it to pay the man who succeeded in getting her passport back to her. My mother and sister fled to Holland, and then, on August 27, 1939, to England, boarding the last KLM plane before the outbreak of war. I was one of the very fortunate few to be reunited with at least one parent.

In my new circumstances, I did everything possible to forget Germany and to become English. It was a matter of survival in my boarding school because we were at war with Germany, and my classmates did not understand the difference between a German Jew and a German. I did not want to speak German, and so I forgot my native language almost entirely until I was about 13, when I relearned it, writing and speaking to my mother.

**THE RETURN**

The producers of the television show contacted me in Syracuse, offering to pay for me to come to Leipzig to appear in an episode about my family. My wife, Betty, was unable to come, but our daughter Karen wanted very much to come along, and the television network, *Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk* (MDR), offered to pay her way. I was to meet Marianne, and we would go to various sites that had played significant roles in my childhood. I would be interviewed at these places about my memories of personal and historical events.

Karen and I flew to Germany and were accommodated at a fine hotel in Leipzig. We filmed for two days. The first scene was my meeting with Marianne, who had come there from her home in Berlin. She had only been told the previous day that I was alive and in Leipzig. The location was the main railway station—the last place I had seen before leaving. After 70 years, I still remembered it. I walked down the platform as though I had just arrived on a train, while Marianne searched for me. She recognized me from my resemblance to my grandfather, whose pictures she had seen. We embraced warmly and began a non-stop conversation, speaking in German, as she does not know English. We went to lunch with Anett Friedrich, the director of the television program. In one of the many moving moments of the trip, Anett gave me copies of several documents she had recovered: my father’s death certificate; a page from the Leipzig police blotter on November 10, 1938, showing my father’s arrest; a document confirming the Nazi take-over of my family’s factory (ending

Anett gave me copies of several documents she had recovered: my father’s death certificate; a page from the Leipzig police blotter on November 10, 1938, showing my father’s arrest.”
I was struck by how many reminders of Germany’s role in the Holocaust we saw. The book the schoolboys gave me contains a whole section devoted to events in Leipzig commemorating Kristallnacht.

with the salutation “Heil Hitler!”); and a notice from the Gestapo authorizing the auction of my mother’s books.

We went to the apartment house where my family had lived. Our former apartment is currently a center for abused and disturbed children, but the television crew had received permission to film there. I still remembered some details of the apartment, and Anett’s questions reawakened more memories. We had been evicted after Kristallnacht, but my mother had somehow managed to find us a small apartment, despite a Nazi ban against renting to Jews. We did some filming there as well and then drove to the factory, which had been established by my family in 1865. It is now partly in ruins. In the afternoon, we went to the Old Jewish Cemetery, where my father is buried. Marianne and I were given a map of the cemetery, and we were filmed as we located our family plot. Seeing my father’s grave was a very emotional experience for Karen and me; I spent several minutes communing with him. The plot right next to ours had been desecrated with the words Juden Schweine (“Jew pigs”). In a filmed interview at the cemetery, I told Anett it had taken me a long time to be able to talk to Germans without thinking about whether they or their relatives were Nazis who had murdered members of my family or other Jews, but I had shed that feeling with time. She said she is still tormented by questions of whether members of her family were involved in Nazi atrocities.

At the Jewish Cultural Center, Marianne spotted some photos of my grandfather in an exhibition. He became president of the Leipzig Jewish Community after the war, when only 16 Jews remained of the 16,000 who had lived there before the Nazis came to power. Remarkably, he had survived with his second wife, who was not Jewish, under harrowing conditions. Then came one of the most moving events of the trip. Two teenage boys, Julius and Paul, interviewed me. They asked excellent questions. Their teacher had done research on me and my family to help them prepare, and after the interview the boys presented me with a beautifully illustrated book containing the results of their teacher’s research. They also gave me a framed receipt from my family’s factory, dated December 9, 1902, featuring the original company logo. This was an extraordinary event, inspiring hope in me for German youth.

Before leaving Germany, Karen and I spent a day in Berlin, which neither of us had ever visited. We went to the Jewish Museum, designed by the Polish-born American architect Daniel Libeskind. Although we only saw part of it, we were most impressed. The tilting floors and the skewed angles at which the walls meet deliberately convey an appropriately disturbing sense of disorientation. We were deeply moved by the numerous displays about the fate of Jewish individuals and families, enabling the viewer to relate personally to these events. We also visited the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, consisting of some 2,700 concrete slabs. It was jarring to be brought back so vividly to the Nazi horrors after the more healing time in Leipzig, but certainly a worthwhile experience.

Before returning to Syracuse, I spent two days in England. I shared memories with two old Leipzig friends who live in London, and enjoyed a memorable evening reconnecting with Hilary, the sole survivor of the Schlesinger family. On the return flight to Washington I sat next to a man who told me his maternal grandparents were German Jews who had emigrated at the same time as I did. His paternal grandparents were German Catholics, and he feels sure this family included Nazis. He has a master’s degree in international law from Harvard, and volunteers to help individuals and institutions gain restitution for war-related crimes. His interest in this arose after he served in the U.S. Army in Bosnia and saw the horrors there. This seemed like a fitting conclusion to my journey.
The story on TV

The television program, titled “The Little Boy and the Nazis,” was shown as an episode of Die Spuhr der Ahnen on the MDR network last November 25. I was provided a web site link to view it before it aired. It was a skillful mix of several elements: Marianne’s search for me; our visits to various locations in Leipzig, which served as backdrops to the interviews with me; scenes from my childhood recreated by actors depicting my parents and me; family photographs; and historical footage of Kristallnacht, the Kindertransport, and Leipzig in the 1930s, including the anti-Semitic signs on display around the city. I participated in a chat room with viewers after the film. I had never been in a chat room before, let alone one conducted in German and on such an emotional subject. I was astonished. Dozens of viewers participated, and many of them were deeply moved. They wanted to know how I felt about returning to Germany, and many expressed their admiration for my doing so. The father of the child actor who played me as a boy wrote that this was a great honor for him. Obviously, my experiences were trivial compared to those of the countless children who suffered so greatly. My story had a happy outcome, and this may have made it easier for people to relate to. Marianne thought the program made a statement against prejudice of all kinds. If so, I am most gratified.

Several factors stand out in making the trip a positive personal experience for me. Karen’s presence meant a great deal. She was supportive and helpful, taking care of practical details and keeping me emotionally grounded. We shared a unique father-daughter experience. Then there was the interaction with the German television crew. Every one of them was kind and thoughtful, sensitive to the tenor of the whole event and respectful of my feelings. They treated us in a loving way. We bonded during the interviews, some of which evoked deep emotions in me. They were drawn into my story, and Anett, the director, cried on several occasions. I was struck by how many reminders of Germany’s role in the Holocaust we saw. The book the schoolboys gave me contains a whole section devoted to events in Leipzig commemorating Kristallnacht. We saw a constant stream of schoolchildren entering the Jewish Museum and the Memorial to the Murdered Jews. In former East Germany, all schoolchildren were required to visit a concentration camp. This made me think that we, in the United States, have nothing comparable to deal with the horrors of slavery and the century of legalized segregation that followed. I believe memorial places might help us deal with our continuing racial problems. This journey, which I never thought of making until I was invited to do so, was an extraordinary event in my life. Although I have spoken about these events before, my personal connections to them lay dormant inside me. I never relived this part of my life until I returned to the place where it happened. Some painful memories were revived, but some healing took place—healing I didn’t know I needed.

H. Richard Levy is a professor emeritus of biology who retired in 2000 after 37 years at SU. A similar account of Professor Levy’s return to Leipzig will appear in the Fall 2010 issue of BIO@SU, the biology department newsletter.

For more on “The Little Boy and the Nazis,” go to Google Translate and enter http://www.mdr.de/ahnen/6809307.html.
SU’s Students in Free Enterprise partner with Guatemalan women to build a business they hope will transform lives in a rural community

BY AMY SPEACH
In fact, the SU-SIF e team members were pretty much head-over-heels with the whole experience, which not only gave them the opportunity to help the women of Chumanzana, but also allowed them to befriend and appreciate their hosts. “We had absolutely no idea what to expect when we got there,” says retail major Kelly Fisher ’10, a four-year member of SU-SIF e and the project’s leader. “We basically just showed up. We had never met the women and didn’t know what kind of progress they had made on the physical maintenance of the building for the store, which was nothing but a concrete storage shed when we arrived.” The team worked quickly to transform the shed into an appealing retail space, clearing it out, scrubbing it down, and applying fresh paint and floor polish. Collaborating with the women, they determined the inventory, deciding on appropriate colors and quantities of thread for the store. “Everything we did took a lot longer than we planned, because we had to translate from K’iché [the indigenous language] to Spanish to English,” Fisher says. “But within a week, we had a relationship with the women that went far beyond what I was expecting. They were comfortable with us. The kids were coming up and giving us hugs. And when

In A TINY, IMPOVERISHED VILLAGE IN THE HILLS OF GUATEMALA LAST JANUARY, A GROUP from Syracuse started to make a dream come true for the women in the community. For eight days, the group—five members of the SU chapter of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), their faculty advisor, and the owner of the Syracuse-area Fair World Marketplace—worked side-by-side with the Mayan residents to set up a business they hoped would improve life there. They traveled to Chumanzana to work with the women’s cooperative to open a thread store, providing easy access to raw materials for the nearly 25,000 weavers in the area. From the start, the SIFE students were enchanted by the good-natured, intelligent women who welcomed them and made them feel at home, despite language barriers. They were also swept off their feet by the children, who ran in and out of the work space throughout each day and cheerfully shouted, “Okey-Dokey!”—the only English phrase they knew.
Instilling Entrepreneurial Spirit in Djibouti

FOR FIVE STUDENTS AND two faculty members in the Whitman School of Management, spring break provided an opportunity to apply classroom concepts to a real-world situation where the need is great. They traveled to Djibouti in East Africa as part of Empowerment through Entrepreneurship, an initiative that promotes new business innovation in a country with few resources and high levels of unemployment, poverty, and malnutrition. The project was developed by the SU-SIFE team, along with retail management professor Amanda Nicholson, the group’s faculty advisor, and entrepreneurship professor Neil Tarallo.

This project brought together Whitman entrepreneurship students and faculty with PAE, a Lockheed Martin company, and the U.S. military to empower emerging businesses in Djibouti. The team trained five PAE employees and five members of the military on the basics of starting a business in a series of Saturday instructional sessions in the fall semester. They also hosted weekly conference calls among members in Washington, D.C., Syracuse, and Djibouti, and assisted in developing online instruction that began in February. During spring break in March, they traveled to Djibouti to work with the military and emerging businesses. While in Africa, SIFE students participated in classroom and group teamwork sessions designed to help local entrepreneurs begin new enterprises. Back in Syracuse, they continued to work with the military and PAE participants to provide ongoing assistance and development to the Djiboutian entrepreneurs.

“It was great to be pioneers of this initiative, and to be changing lives and helping people become more successful.”

Dean Melvin T. Stith G’73, G’78 echoes Kinney’s appreciation for the program’s benefits. “These kinds of hands-on learning experiences truly put our students to the test and give them the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the real world,” he says. “In today’s competitive business environment, it’s important that we develop leaders through international programs, enabling them to compete at a global level.”
we left, there were tears everywhere.”

Called “Threads of Hope,” the project has a broad goal of creating sustainable incomes for Chumanzana women, whose weaving supplements the town’s primary industry of agriculture. It is part of a larger effort led by SU-SIFE’s Team Guatemala, which four years ago began establishing business partnerships in the Central American country through fair trade organizations. In 2007, a team traveled to Guatemala to help train a group of Mayan women in jewelry-making with the aim of selling their pieces and other Mayan handcrafts at the SU Bookstore and other college stores. The endeavor has since returned more than $40,000 to Guatemala. In a community where 90 percent of the people are illiterate and few children attend school, such projects are a vital aid to economic development. “The women in Chumanzana are very aware,” says faculty advisor Amanda Nicholson, a retail management and marketing professor and the SU-SIFE Sam Walton Fellow in the Whitman School of Management. “They would like their children to go to school and move forward to have better lives. So we hope what we are doing can help make a difference for them and for their children’s futures.”

The new thread store significantly cuts time and travel expenses for the weavers, who previously traveled half a day to Guatemala City to purchase thread for their weaving projects. Thanks to Threads of Hope, they now have supplies on hand in their own community. To further ensure the store’s success, SIFE students worked with the women to develop business strategies, educating them about store ownership and retailing principles, and empowering them to run the local shop independently. They continue to mentor the women through weekly conference calls. “The most important thing was giving them the confidence to run a successful business,” Fisher says. “I left there fully believing that these women can succeed, and that their success will have an impact on the economic development of the whole community.”

Global Network for Good

Founded in 1975, SIFE is a global nonprofit organization that helps students develop communication skills through learning, practicing, and teaching the principles of free enterprise on their campuses, in their communities, and beyond. Projects emphasize teamwork, leadership, and outreach. With more than 1,600 participating colleges and universi-
Environmental Sustainability: Converting Organic Waste (COW)
This project partners with the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in seeking alternative uses for food waste at SU and raising awareness through a cross-campus educational initiative focused on innovative methods of waste disposal and management. The team built an anaerobic digester model on campus that successfully took in more than 150 pounds of waste per week during a 2009 pilot study, producing 2,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer and 1,300 cubic meters of biogas. The COW team also conducted food audits at campus dining centers and entered Ernst & Young’s Your World, Your Vision Competition to secure funding for project development. In May, the team submitted a proposal to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment Steering Committee at SU, which has pledged the campus will be carbon neutral by 2040, and received the committee’s endorsement to continue developing the idea with a long-term view of building a permanent digester to take care of all food waste.

Personal Success Skills: Chadwick Residence
Objectives of the Chadwick Residence project are to increase the self-sufficiency of women residents coming from battered-women shelters, homeless shelters, and drug rehabilitation facilities; to move clients from welfare to work; and to instill confidence and optimism in an at-risk group. Activities have included offering weekly one-on-one GED tutoring sessions and holding seminars to improve skills in interviewing, resume building, and living on a budget. They also hope to expand workshop topics and enhance residents’ skills in independent living.

Financial Literacy: Get Smart
The Get Smart team seeks to develop the financial literacy of elementary, high school, and college students and instill the concept of savings in all student groups. The team’s programs have resulted in a 40 to 75 percent increase in knowledge of financial literacy for all school groups, based on pre- and post-program testing. The team also conducts a financial literacy program for senior citizens at the Westcott Community Center. Goals include extending efforts to SU residence halls this fall and reaching out to more senior citizens.

Business Ethics: RESPECT
This project strives to raise awareness of unethical recruiting practices in Greek life across campus, reduce instances and severity of hazing during the new-member process, and lower the dropout rates of new members during pledging. The project has reached more than 1,300 students through special events. The team distributed anti-hazing cards and fliers across campus, and gained a commitment from the University for the RESPECT campaign to be a permanent part of the recruitment process. Goals include increasing activities to reach all Greek members on campus and further curtailing unethical pledge practices.

Retail Therapy
This initiative targets Syracuse retailers who need help improving their businesses. This year the team worked with a young entrepreneur who imports baskets from Ghana and makes her own peanut brittle, helping her establish brand identity and increase channels of distribution and sales.

REACHING OUT TO CAMPUS AND THE COMMUNITY
Additional SU-SIFE projects:

Whitman School students Zach Brown ’13 (left) and Bryan Lovera ’13 work with two seniors at the Westcott Community Center as part of SU-SIFE’s Get Smart team that conducts financial literacy programs.
ties in 40 countries and territories, SIFE is one of the world’s largest university-based organizations, bringing together a diverse network of students, academic professionals, and industry leaders with the common goal of making the world a better, more sustainable place through the power of business. SIFE participants contribute their talents to projects that improve the lives of people around the globe, demonstrating that individuals who are knowledgeable and passionate about business can be an important force for positive change. “The idea is that students take the knowledge and expertise they acquire in the classroom into the world and make a difference,” Nicholson says. “The students are the center of it all, on literally hundreds of campuses.”

It was Nicholson who first approached Whitman Dean Melvin T. Stith G’73, G’78 five years ago with the idea of starting a SIFE chapter at SU. Supportive from the start, Stith has played an important role in the group’s success, providing encouragement as well as financial resources to help with travel and other expenses. “SU-SIFE continues to raise the bar for community engagement,” Stith says. “The many dedicated and passionate members are skilled at spreading their enthusiasm. The bulk of the funding for building the store in Chumanzana was raised from Whitman faculty and staff who were won over by the tremendous efforts of these students and their faculty advisor.”

Additional sources of funding for SU-SIFE include grants and contributions from company sponsors and individuals, including members of the team’s business advisory board. Students also compete with other SIFE groups for prize money, both regionally and nationally. “Last year we competed in three different topic competitions and earned about $7,000 in prize money,” Nicholson says. “We’ve been to nationals every year, by winning a regional competition league—which is a big deal.

We just returned from Minneapolis and placed second out of some 600 teams at the national competition, which was very exciting. I believe that competing is important. It keeps everyone on their toes and engaged. And it gives students the added benefit of learning how much organization it takes to make something happen on a small budget.”

SU-SIFE has 70 active members working on several distinct projects (see page 40). While most participants are Whitman students, membership is open to everyone on campus. “Because of the types of things done in SIFE, members tend to be housed in business schools,” Nicholson says. “But we welcome anyone who is interested and demonstrates a high level of commitment.” Being in SIFE isn’t easy, she cautions, but the rewards are as plentiful as the demands. “It isn’t like going to summer camp,” she says. “The projects can be risky. You don’t know if one will work, and things often go wrong. Doing something outside your safety barrier is tough. It is messy and it can be upsetting. But it can also be empowering to realize that by sharing what you have learned, you really can do something to help people who haven’t had the same good fortune as you.”

Fisher agrees that the benefits of participating in SIFE are well worth the hours she dedicated to the organization during her time at SU. “I could go on for days about what SIFE has meant to me,” says Fisher, whose SIFE connections helped her land a marketing job with Unilever consumer products in the New York City area. “When I joined in my freshman year, I had no expectation of traveling the world, going to Guatemala, and working with groups like the women in Chumanzana. It completely opened my eyes and let me see there was more to school than taking classes. SIFE helped me develop my skills, but I was giving back at the same time. And that’s something I don’t think I could live without now.”
Stephen Crane (front row, center) sits with teammates on the steps on the east side of the Hall of Languages in 1891. The “Old Row” trio (top left) consisted of the Hall of Languages, von Ranke Library, and Crouse College. Workers (top right) used horses to grade the “Old Oval,” circa 1880s; the baseball field was located in this area, on the south side of today’s Quad.
THERE IS LITTLE INDICATION THAT WHEN STEPHEN Crane enrolled at Syracuse University in January 1891, a great American novel was percolating in his baseball-mad cranium. After all, it was still three years before he would publish his Civil War masterpiece, *The Red Badge of Courage*. Yet during his six months in Syracuse, Crane, an aspiring journalist born to a Methodist minister in Newark, New Jersey, was probably exposed to a series of sights, sounds, and sensitivities that would influence his future—and famously realistic—writing.

To properly set the stage, recall that he had flunked out of Lafayette College in Pennsylvania in December 1890 and needed the connections of his widowed mother, a niece to the Reverend Jesse Peck, one of SU’s Methodist-Episcopalian founders, to get admitted to the relatively new—and still modest—university overlooking one of Onondaga’s many sweeping vales. A member of the Class of 1894, Crane arrived that snowy winter of ’91 at the Delta Upsilon fraternity house, located at 426 Ostrom Avenue near today’s Thornden Park on the hilltop east of Marshall.
Street, and determinedly set his sights on playing varsity baseball for the Orangemen that spring. He signed up for English literature, history, and Latin classes, but acknowledged in a January 1896 letter to John Northern Hilliard, a journalist friend and author, that academia was not his forte. “I did little work in school, but confined my abilities, such as they were, to the diamond. Not that I disliked books, but the cut-and-dried curriculum of the college did not appeal to me. Humanity was a much more interesting study. When I ought to have been at recitations I was studying faces on the streets, and when I ought to have been studying my next day’s lessons I was watching the trains roll in and out of the Central Station.”

His Latin professor, Frank Smalley, later the dean of liberal arts, confirmed this sentiment in a letter to Crane’s widow in August 1900, noting that the author “devoted himself to athletic sports with ardor, especially base-ball and was our finest player.”

But Crane also had a passion for writing, whether it was fiction, journalism, or poetry. While his early work received modest praise, it was *The Red Badge of Courage* that would place Crane in the same breath with such noted literary giants of the time as Mark Twain, Henry James, Jack London, and Edith Wharton.

The landmark novel was first published in serial form by the Bacheller-Johnson Newspaper Syndicate in December 1894. Nine months later, Appleton published *Red Badge*, and it was immediately apparent that Crane had captured the searing drama of the Civil War, which had ended 30 years earlier. Many Union and Confederate veterans were still alive then and took to commenting on the accuracy of Crane’s battle scenes or debating which battle (unnamed in the book) might have served as Crane’s inspiration. Today, most literary historians believe the young author’s slight references to place and season suggest the bloody siege of Chancellorsville (April 30-May 6, 1863), which was fought across much of Spotsylvania County in Virginia. For his part, Crane told *Book Buyer* in 1896 that while working on his *Red Badge* manuscript, he’d been coaching and playing quarterback on a football team in Lakeview, a suburb of Paterson, New Jersey, and the experience influenced his writing. “I have never been in a battle, of course,” Crane said, “and I believe that I got my sense of the rage of conflict on the football field.”

However, new evidence, drawn from research at SU Library’s Special Collections Research Center and the University Archives, may reveal just how important Syracuse University, its geography, and baseball were to the creation of a book still selling more than a century after its release. In fact, in a November 1895 letter to the editor of *Leslie’s Weekly*, Crane wrote, “When I was at school, few of my studies interested me, and as a result I was a bad scholar.

In Crane’s day, the SU Hill featured the Hall of Languages (not pictured), von Ranke Library (now the Tolley Humanities Center), Holden Observatory, and Crouse College. A baseball (above) is among the Crane holdings in the Special Collections Research Center. It was donated by a Crane teammate and used in a game against Hobart College in which Crane played on May 23, 1891.
They used to say at Syracuse University, where, by the way, I didn’t finish the course, that I was cut out to be a professional baseball player. And the truth of the matter is that I went there more to play baseball than to study.”

And have fun. The 1891 Onondagan offers six distinct references to Crane, noting he not only played baseball and pledged DU, but also served as the alumni association secretary and treasurer of Claverack College, a quasi-military boarding school he attended from 1888-90. Crane also captained the DU cricket club, served as a member of the DU winter coating club, and joined an eating group called the Toothpick Club.

What Crane saw in Syracuse in 1891 was, of course, completely different from the University today. There were only four buildings on piety Hill at the time: the “Old Row” trio of the Hall of Languages (built in 1873), Crouse College (1889), and the von Ranke Library (1889; now the Tolley Humanities Center), as well as Holden Observatory (1887), which was relocated in 1991. The University began construction on a fifth building, the Women’s Gymnasium/Y.M.C.A., in April 1891, but it was not finished until the next year and was demolished in 1965. The primary 50 acres donated to the University by George Comstock were still rolling farmland bordered by dirt roads and the densely forested Mount Olympus to the southeast and the Davis Estate (Thornden Park) to the northeast. The Quad, not yet hemmed in on three sides, stood largely as an undeveloped field with a baseball diamond carved out on the far south side.

Remember, too, that intercollegiate athletics, available only to men, were in their infancy, and the dominant sports at Syracuse were track and field (then known as “athletics”), football (which began formal competition in 1889), tennis, riflery, and baseball. The modern Olympic Games didn’t exist until 1896, and the merger of baseball’s National League and American Association didn’t take place until 1901. Baseball was a rapidly growing sport nationally, and SU was famed for having won the 1888 state intercollegiate title.

Classes started that winter on January 6, and Crane attended his first baseball practice on February 2. He would have found it easy to look down on the emerging University and City of Syracuse from DU’s commanding perch, and, as SU historian Freeman Galpin wrote, join his tobogganing frat brothers in racing “their sleds down Marshall Street to the ‘meadows’ on University Avenue.” Before DU moved in, the hilltop residence belonged to Syracuse professor Wellesley Perry Coddington. Occupied today by the College of Human Ecology, the building features a plaque honoring Crane and still carries the Greek DU letters on the front cornice facing Ostrom Avenue, despite the fact DU is no longer an officially registered SU fraternity.

Fiery on the Field

On the baseball field, Crane was a 5-foot-6, 125-pound pepper pot of a player and one former teammate, a pitcher, described him as playing “with fiendish glee.” Initially a catcher, he struggled with the long kneeling throw to second base when runners attempted to steal on him, so he became a shortstop. That season, Crane and his teammates benefited from the construction of a 50-seat baseball grandstand by George Shepherd (Class of 1891), the team’s manager. The baseball diamond and outfield were just east of where Bowne Hall now stands—allowing Crane to enjoy an unimpeded sweeping view of his nascent “stadium” from Delta Upsilon.

To place baseball in a proper context for the impressionable Crane, who turned 19 that past November, we must recall the popularity of the sport had forced newspaper publisher Joseph Pulitzer to establish the first-ever dedicated sports department, in the New York World, in 1883. By 1889, baseball was a major player in the social conversation of the day. There were the national exploits of such players as Mike “King” Kelly and Cap Anson; the creation of popular songs, such as “Slide, Kelly, Slide” (1883), which emerged as America’s first “pop hit” in 1889; and Ernest Thayer’s poem “Casey at the Bat,” which actor DeWolf Hopper began performing on vaudeville stages in 1889. Even Mark Twain referenced baseball. In A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court (1889), Twain’s time-traveling hero, Hank Morgan, speaks of creating a nine-man team composed solely of kings. Twain saw the game as a powerful metaphor and commented in 1889 that “Baseball is the very symbol, the outward and visible
expression of the drive and push and rush and struggle of the raging, tearing, booming nineteenth century.”

Locally, the Syracuse Daily Standard recognized baseball’s importance and frequently dedicated significant space in 1891 to the reportage of the Syracuse Stars, who played in the Eastern Association against the Albany Senators, Buffalo Bisons, Lebanon Cedars, New Haven Nutmegs, Providence Clam diggers, Rochester Hop Bitters, and Troy Trojans.

### Piety Hill’s Influence

So the question is this: How might Syracuse University and baseball have shaped the writing of Crane’s slender masterpiece? As noted above, we know football played its role in the novel’s development, but we can suggest other influences. For instance, the opening sentences in The Red Badge of Courage could have been inspired by Crane’s late spring hilltop vantage point from the DU house: “The cold passed reluctantly from the earth, and the retiring fogs revealed an army stretched out on the hills, resting. As the landscape changed from brown to green, the army awakened, and began to tremble with eagerness at the noise of rumors. It cast its eyes upon the roads, which were growing from long troughs of liquid mud to proper thoroughfares.”

This imagery is consistent with period photographs of Syracuse and fits the pastoral setting of a growing school designed as a Methodist-Episcopalian seminary, sitting on a un dulating ridgeline overlooking Onondaga Lake. In fact, later in Chapter One of Red Badge, Crane uses imagery that might have sprung from the playing of Crouse College’s chimes after Syracuse football games and at 5 each evening by the Delta Kappa Epsilon brothers. “One night, as he lay in bed, the winds had carried to him the clanging of the church bell as some enthusiast jerked the rope frantically to tell the twisted news of a great battle.”

A few pages later, Crane’s protagonist, Henry Fleming, prepares to leave his hometown to join the Union forces, and Crane’s language invokes a warm—perhaps imagined—farewell from Syracuse: “From his home he had gone to the seminary to bid adieu to many schoolmates. They had thronged about him with wonder and admiration.”

Later, however, Fleming runs from battle, deserting his unit in the face of a Confederate counterattack. This theme of desertion is significant in Red Badge and may have come from two moments in Crane’s baseball career. The first took place during his time at Claverack, where he was offered the captaincy of the baseball team but turned down the honor. The second, and possibly more influential, occurred on June 6, 1891, when Crane’s Orangemen traveled to Hamilton, New York, to play Colgate. By this point in the season, Crane was Syracuse’s shortstop; on this day, however, he was forced to play first base when two teammates failed to show up for the fray. “Syracuse was badly crippled by the fact that only seven of their regular players went to Hamilton,” the Syracuse Sunday Herald reported the next day. “The shortstop had to play first base and the manager [Shepherd] had to play center field, one position being vacant.” Additionally, the June 8, 1891 [Syracuse] University News reported, “Since we lost our chance for the pennant, the interest in baseball seems to be entirely dead. At Hamilton on Friday, we lost a game to a team far inferior to ours, on account of this woeful lack of enthusiasm.”

### After the Road Trip

There can be no doubt that Crane would have been furious at teammates who failed to travel for his sacred game. When he returned to campus from Hamilton, Crane did little more than attend an official DU meeting on June 12 (his presence marked in attendance records), take his final exams (June 16-18), and enjoy the mild uproar his tongue-in-cheek article, “Great Bugs in Onondaga,” had created for the Syracuse Daily Standard and the New York Tribune earlier that month. The humorous story—a fictional piece many historians have referred to as a hoax—told the tale of large bugs with “turtle-like armor” infesting the railroad tracks near a Jamesville limestone quarry and interrupting train service to Syracuse. Before the month was over, Crane was gone, headed for New York City to further his skills as a journalist and aspiring novelist. But Crane’s Syracuse memories stayed with him, and several times in Red Badge we can see hints of SU.

For example, in Chapter Seven, Henry Fleming enters a deeply wooded glade (possibly the oaks and pines of Mount Olympus), where “he threw a pine cone at a jovial squirrel, and he [the squirrel] ran with chattering fear.” A page later, Crane wrote, “The youth went again to the deep thickets. The brushed branches made a noise that drowned the sounds of cannon. He walked on, going from obscurity into promises of a greater obscurity. At length he reached a place where the high, arching boughs made a chapel. He softly pushed the green doors aside and entered. Pine needles were a gentle brown carpet. There was a religious half-light.”

Crane also spiritually references a wooded setting at the beginning of Chapter Eight: “The trees began softly to sing a hymn of twilight. The sun sank until slanted bronze rays struck the forest. There was a lull in the noises of insects as if they had bowed their beaks and were making a devotional pause. There was silence save for the chanted chorus of the trees.”
Oakwood Cemetery Connection

Given the nature of Syracuse's religious roots and the embryonic physical development of the campus, it is easy to imagine Crane's intense but rather religious narrative about the rural setting and insects could have been inspired, in part, during the spring of 1891. Walks through nearby Oakwood Cemetery, which was established in 1859, would have revealed a sizeable mortuary chapel and receiving vault, as well as many tranquil gravesites and mausoleums dedicated to Civil War veterans, including Union General Edwin Vose Sumner, the commander of the 2nd Corps of the Army of Potomac who died in Syracuse in 1863. And Crane would have recognized Sumner's name, because Crane's favorite teacher at Claverack was the “Reverend General” John B. Van Petten, who served under Sumner. According to historian Thomas O'Donnell, Van Petten was a chaplain in the 34th New York Volunteers (160th Regiment) who fought under Sumner at Fair Oaks and Antietam and later earned a Ph.D. in history at Syracuse University (1889) while regaling Crane with Civil War stories at Claverack. It seems likely that Van Petten would have visited the grave of his commanding officer during a trip to Syracuse, and told his war-loving student, Crane, that one of the Union's most noted generals was buried next to campus. In fact, historian Lyndon Pratt proposed in 1939 that “The Red Badge of Courage owes more to Van Petten than to any other single source of influence.”

After leaving Syracuse, Crane wrote feverishly for various publications throughout 1892 and, under the pen name Johnston Smith, self-published his first novel, Maggie: A Girl of the Streets, around March 1893. Many believe that Crane based this realistic story of a girl from the slums on a local woman he met during his frequent forays into the Salt City. Crane's frat brothers later claimed that early draft pages of Maggie were hidden in DU's attic. At the time, Syracuse was a thriving industrial town, built on the barge traffic that plied the Erie Canal and sustained in the 1890s by the New York Central Railroad. Such local merchants as Dey Brothers and Durston's Bookseller or the exotic Russian or Turkish baths at places like the Globe Hotel would have caught Crane's attention, and a trip downtown simply required pointing a bicycle westward and speeding downhill from DU.

It appears Crane never returned to Syracuse after publication of Red Badge. While he enjoyed notable success as an author and war correspondent, he also endured a scandal that suggested he was socializing in the company of prostitutes and even survived a ship wreck off the Florida coast. Venturing to Europe, he mingled with the likes of H.G. Wells, Joseph Conrad, and Henry James before dying of tuberculosis at age 28 in Badenweiler, Germany. Wells called Crane “beyond dispute, the best writer of our generation.” Likewise, there should be no disagreement that the young man—who loved baseball and rose to international fame with a book that continues to influence literary and cinematic discussions of cowardice and bravery in war—was touched by his time at the ever-expanding university on the hill.

Rick Burton ’80 is the David B. Falk Professor of Sport Management at the College of Human Ecology. A shorter and different version of this story appeared in The New York Times on March 14. Burton also presented his research on Crane and baseball at the 22nd Annual Cooperstown Symposium, hosted by the National Baseball Hall of Fame, in June. He'd like to thank Ed Galvin and Mary O'Brien of the University Archives and staff at the Special Collections Research Center for their research support.
SU’s Alpha Phi Alpha chapter celebrates 100 years of leadership, community engagement, and mutual support.

ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY INC., THE FIRST GREEK-life organization founded by African American students, was born in 1906 at nearby Cornell University and established a Syracuse University chapter in 1910. In April, the fraternity’s alumni and student members gathered on campus in celebration of the chapter centennial. Among the highlights was a keynote lecture at Hendricks Chapel by Hill Harper, who plays the role of Dr. Sheldon Hawkes on the hit television series, *CSI: New York*. Harper, an active Alpha who attended Brown and Harvard Law School, was a practicing attorney before turning to acting. He is also a successful entrepreneur whose ventures include a New Orleans French Quarter hotel and a Beverly Hills restaurant. The range and quality of his achievements reflect the organization’s long-established values, as did another of the weekend’s activities—a group visit to the Southwest Community Center and the Syracuse Boys & Girls clubs, where fraternity members regularly volunteer as mentors and tutors to Syracuse schoolchildren. “Alpha Phi Alpha is a fraternity like no other,” says Jake Tanksley ’86, human resources director for SU’s Division of Advancement and External Affairs. “Although we’re probably best known for high academic standards and careers in the professions, I believe the thing that really sets our organization apart is a shared passion for leadership and community service.”

Evidence of that passion is abundant. On the national level, a brief list of notable Alphas includes the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, Prime Minister Norman Manley of Jamaica, NAACP founder W.E.B. DuBois, and activist humorist Dick Gregory. Although less well known than these historical figures, members of Syracuse’s Delta Zeta Chapter have made a difference in shaping campus life: McArthur Sullivan ’74, the first African American president of the SU Student Association; Ervin C. Allgood ’77, co-founding director of the Black Celestial Choral Ensemble; Richard Lendor ’88, student chapter president of the Society of Minority Architects; and Jared M. Green ’01, student chapter president of the National Society of Black Engineers. “Alphas have always set the bar high,” says Rob Lewis ’84, a former ABC News producer who is now president of Broadcast Management Group LLC, a Washington, D.C.-based news production company. “When I arrived on campus in 1980, it was clear that to be an Alpha man you had to be actively engaged in some leadership capacity, be that in campus student government, athletics, or the Syracuse community.”

Among other notables spotted at the centennial reunion were Arthur Vaughn ’92, controller of Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Georgia; Mack Rice ’82, multicultural director for Met Life in the New York City area; actor Darryl M. Bell ’86 (*A Different World, Spike Lee’s School Daze*), a winner of the Chancellor’s Citation; and William J. Haskins Jr. ’52, the senior member in attendance, who pledged Alpha more than 60 years ago. Haskins, a running back for the Orange football team, won letters in track and gymnastics as well, and was instrumental in reviving Alpha Phi Alpha at SU after World War II. He went on to earn a master’s degree in social work from Columbia University and had a distinguished career, including a stint as a director of the National Urban League. Now retired, he makes his home in Richmond, Virginia. “Even among all the prosperous, successful alumni you expect to see at an Alpha Phi Alpha event, William Haskins is a walking advertisement for healthy living,” says Larry Martin, associate vice president for program development at SU. “I don’t think he has gained an ounce since he carried the ball for the Orange.”

Martin praised the Alphas for their loyalty to each other and their generosity to
SU students through the Our Time Has Come Scholarship Campaign and other initiatives.

While many Greek organizations engage in community service these days, Alpha Phi Alpha has been involved in such projects since its founding. “The desire to give back and contribute to society is a critical piece of what we’re all about,” Tanksley says. “For example, we are very proud of the voter registration campaigns we conduct under the motto, ‘A Voteless People is a Hopeless People.’” In addition to their tutoring work, Alphas award an annual scholarship to a college-bound Syracuse high school senior; carry out health initiatives, including sickle cell anemia screening; and engage in a wide variety of fund-raising programs for charitable foundations. The Syracuse chapter has been recognized for its many efforts by Alpha Phi Alpha’s national organization, and was designated National Collegiate Chapter of the Year in 1980. This is no small achievement, considering the hundreds of chapters in the United States, Bermuda, Canada, Germany, South Korea, and elsewhere that bring similar levels of commitment and talent to their community work.

Lewis, an Emmy Award-winning broadcast journalist, recorded a series of interviews with members who talk about their experiences in Alpha Phi Alpha and how the organization helped to shape their lives (see alpha-phi-alpha.com). “I’ve been an Alpha for 28 years and I remain active today for the same reason I joined,” Lewis says. “It’s an opportunity to work with like-minded individuals toward a common goal of improving the lives of others as illustrated in our motto: ‘First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All.’”

—David Marc
opportunity to experience the diversity of a large university. I’m happy to say SU becomes more diverse with each passing year. In fact, our newest group of first-year students is the largest, most diverse incoming class in SU’s history.

These students will experience the same kind of excitement and anticipation we felt when we started our journey on the Hill. If you would like to relive some of your own fond memories, please join us for Orange Central get-togethers, and much more.

This year the Orange Central experience will be enhanced with four themes that will resonate throughout the weekend.

> Celebrate the 60th anniversary of Hillel at SU with tours of the Winnick Center and lively panel discussions that will explore Hillel’s rich tradition and service to the Jewish community, on and off campus.

> Learn about the Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities, which continues SU’s tradition of welcoming those who serve our country, from the World War II veterans who attended SU on the GI Bill to today’s veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

> Commemorate the 20th anniversary of passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act with informative presentations from the School of Education, the new Lawrence B. Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education, and the nationally recognized Burton Blatt Institute.

> Join us as we show our support of the arts in the City of Syracuse, with special recognition of video artist Bill Viola ’73, H’95 and his use of image and sound to create an artistic experience.

We look forward to warmly welcoming our first-year students, and all SU alumni who come back to campus for Orange Central 2010. See you in October!

Larry Bashe ’66, G’68
President, Syracuse University Alumni Association
he and his wife, Lorraine Chesna Ayanian ’59 (NUR), celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Lawrence M. Ginsburg L’55 (LAW) of Atlanta wrote Tales of and about Jewish Youth During the Fin-de-siècle Era: An Annotated Gazette for a Transitional Decade in Upstate New York (University Press of America), which explores life at Jewish orphanages, examines a weekly Jewish journal, and profiles individuals and Jewish associations.


Janet Teitell Langsam ’55 (CHE), executive director of the Arts-Westchester council, received the Woman of the Year award from the Westchester County Federation of Women’s Clubs.


Cindy Blum Fries ’58 (SDA) and Arthur L. Fries ’58 (WSM) celebrated 50 years of marriage in March. Arthur is a disability claim consultant.

Hall Groat Sr. ’59 (VPA) of Manlius, N.Y., was featured in The Peacetime Draft During the Cold War, a book by Mel Rubenstein ’57 (WSM). In the book, Groat describes life as a Korean combat veteran and his experiences as an occupational soldier. A self-employed artist whose paintings and murals are showcased in Syracuse, Groat has published several letters and stories and is writing a book about the business of art.

60s

Leonard C. Homer ’61 (A&S), a health care attorney with Ober, Kalber, Grimes & Shriver in Baltimore, is on the list of “Maryland Super Lawyers” published in the January 2010 issue of the Maryland Super Lawyers magazine.

Donna L. Miceli ’62 (NEW/VPA) of Fort Myers, Fla., is the 2009-10 administrator of web site and Internet technology for the American Medical Writers Association. A self-employed copywriter, editor, and public relations consultant specializing in health care communications and business-to-business writing, she has written numerous health care books, patient education brochures, and other publications.

Harry M. Bobonich G’64 (A&S) retired from Shippensburg (Pa.) University as dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research. He wrote his fifth book, The Great Depression: Hard Times in the Coal Region, which includes articles from newspapers in Schuykill County during the 1930s and a section depicting the hardships of women.

Richard W. Cost ’64 (A&S) is retiring after six years active duty in the Navy and 40 years in higher education. For the last eight years he served as president of the University of Maine at Fort Kent.

James A. Jacobs ’65 (A&S), G’66 (NEW), G’74 (MAX), wrote Transgressions (Palo Alto Books), a coming-of-age novel about the son of a Jewish professional boxer who makes a life-changing discovery while being sheltered on an Indian reservation. Jacobs is an ex-Marine and former journalist who lives with his wife, Susan, in Berkeley, Calif., and teaches English at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill.

Harvey Kaiser G’65 (ARC), G’74 (MAX) of Syracuse wrote his 15th book, Strategic Capital Development: The New Model for Campus Investment (Association of Physical Plant Administrators), which presents an innovative approach for planning higher capital investments.

Marsha McCreadie ’65 (A&S) of New York City wrote Documentary Superstars: How Today’s Filmmakers are Reinventing the Form (Allworth Press), which explores how past documentary filmmakers laid the groundwork for today’s works.

Howard Ross ’65 (SDA) of Charlotte, N.C., teaches English as a second language at International House, an international diversity center that promotes multicultural understanding.

Judith Emerline Bertini ’66 (A&S) of Annandale, Va., retired after more than 35 years of service with the Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, where she was deputy assistant administrator for intelligence.


Steve Kroft ’67 (NEW), SU trustee and noted broadcast journalist with CBS’s 60 Minutes, was inducted into the Howard County Hall of Legends in his hometown of Kokomo, Ind.

John Favalo ’68 (NEW), managing partner for Group B2B at Eric Mower and Associates, received the G.D. Crain Award for business-to-business marketing excellence at the 2010 National Business Marketing Association (BMA) Conference. The award carries with it election to the BMA Hall of Fame and an honorarium from the Crain Foundation.

Barry “Bob” Roth ’68 (Utica) of Montgomery, N.Y., is known as “The College & Career Success Coach.” His most recent book, College Success: Advice for Parents of High School and College Students, inspires parents to team up with their children to ensure they perform well in college and land a good-paying job with a respected employer after graduation (www.authorhouse.com).

Roger Simpson ’68 (A&S), a plastic surgeon at Long Island Plastic Surgical Group, was named one of Long Island’s Top Doctors by Newsday. A senior partner who has been with the practice since 1980, he directs the Center for Facial Paralysis, restoring loss of facial nerve function caused by stroke, disease, or traumatic injury. He also focuses on burn reconstruction and hand surgery, as well as performing general plastic and reconstructive surgery.

Bruce Bloch ’69 (A&S), L’71 (LAW) of Fair Lawn, N.J., teaches negotiation, dispute resolution, contracts, real estate, and other courses at various colleges and at Lot and Block Solutions.com.

Ray Brown ’69 (A&S) wrote Linda and the Robot (Bookemon), a children’s storybook and a sequel to Linda and the Time Machine.

John D. Hardy ’69 (A&S), G’70 (LCS) retired as a member of the principal professional staff from The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab in Laurel, Md. He worked on various Department of Defense and Department of Transportation programs during his 34 years at the lab.

Mike Krebs’69 (LCS), G’73 (WSM) of Hudson, N.H., joined the sales team at Hamamatsu, a leading supplier of photonic components and systems, continuing a career focus on electronic test and measurement systems. He plays soccer in a competitive league.
and is a youth and college referee, and enjoys skiing and hiking in the White Mountains.

Richard Sherman ’69 (A&S) married Donna Tirado. They reside in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Jeffrey Fuchs ’70 (A&S) of Eden, N.Y., earned a J.D. degree from the University of Buffalo Law School in May 2009 and was admitted to the New York State Bar in February 2010.

Stephen Katz G’70 (WSM) is regional manager of government services at Retired, a company in Los Angeles. He recently retired as a colonel after 30 years in the U.S. Air Force, having served in 350 combat missions and two tours in Vietnam.

Augustine Ubaldi ’70 (LCS) of North Olmsted, Ohio, is working as an expert witness in the fields of aviation and railroads. He also completed teaching three classes in the construction engineering technology program at Cuyahoga Community College.

Gorham L. Black III G’71 (MAX) is Maryland state director of Selective Service, a presidential appointment. Black is a Vietnam combat veteran who retired from the Army in 1990 after 27 years of service.

Joanne Mehling Butler ’71 (A&S) is the 16th state librarian for Kansas, appointed by Governor Mark Parkinson and confirmed by the Kansas Senate in February.

Nicholas Donofrio G’71 (LCS) was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the MITRE Corporation, a not-for-profit organization that provides systems engineering, research and development, and information technology support to several federal government agencies.

Roslyn A. Mazer ’71 (A&S) is inspector general of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in Washington, D.C., responsible for policy direction and inquiries related to the office’s programs and operations.

John Triggs L’71 (LAW) of Nashville was named one of Tennessee’s “Best 150 Lawyers” by Business TN magazine. He was chosen out of 18,000 practicing lawyers for his expertise in property law.

Karen DeCrow L’72 (LAW) received the President’s Medal from SUNY Oswego, recognizing her pioneering work in gender equality.

Kevin F. McMurray ’72 (A&S), a freelance journalist living in Brewster, N.Y., wrote One Dark Night, a crime book about Carlos Perez-Olivo, a disbarred attorney convicted of murdering his wife of 30 years in Chappaqua, N.Y., in 2008.

Shelley Rotner ’72 (A&S) of Northampton, Mass., co-wrote and illustrated Shades of People (Holiday House), a nonfiction book for preschoolers. She is an award-winning author and photo-illustrator of more than 30 books who has had photographs published in National Geographic and other magazines.

Sharon Steingard ’72 (A&S) is a partner at the Philadelphia law firm of Willig, Williams and Davidson. An author and frequent lecturer, she is an arbitrator for the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas.

Susan Sherman Stendhal ’73 (A&S), a certified fund-raising executive since 2002, is director of development for the Eastern New England Council of Hostelling International, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting intercultural understanding, environmental stewardship, and world peace through travel.

Ned Tillman G’73 (A&S) received an award from the American Society for Public Administration for The Chesapeake Watershed: A Sense of Place and a Call to Action (Chesapeake Book Company). His book was also recognized as the 2010 Best Book on Environmental and Natural Resources (www.TheChesapeakeWatershed.com).

Judith L. Howe G’74 (MAX), geriatrics professor at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, will be the next editor of Gerontology & Geriatrics Education, effective January 2011.

Susan Schwartz Hubbard ’74 (A&S/NEW), G’84 (A&S), professor of English at the University of Central Florida, Orlando, has published her seventh book, The Season of Risks (Simon & Schuster).

Barry R. Kogut ’74 (A&S) of Syracuse, N.Y., is the new chair of the 1,158-member Environmental Law Section of the New York State Bar Association. A partner at Bond, Schoeneck & King, he concentrates his practice in environmental law, including federal and state regulatory compliance and enforcement matters.

Omer Bin Abdullah G’75 (NEW) of Herndon, Va., is editor of Islamic Horizons, the flagship magazine for the Islamic Society of North America. The magazine was among the winners of the 2010 DeRose-Hinkhouse Awards presented by the Religion Communicators Council for demonstrating excellence in religious communications and public relations.

Philip Geier G’75, G’80 (MAX), executive director and co-founder of the Davis United World Scholars Program, was the 2010 commencement speaker at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa.

Sharon R. Klein ’75 (SW), a partner with Pepper Hamilton law firm of Philadelphia, is the new chair of the firm’s litigation practice group. She is a trial lawyer who has handled cases in federal and state courts throughout the United States.

Karen J. Docter G’78 (CHE), G’81 (EDU), L’90 (LAW) was honored by Onondaga Community College in Syracuse to be part of Alumni Faces, a permanent display recognizing alumni who have made significant contributions to the betterment of society through their professional pursuits, community involvement, and humanitarian efforts. Docter has a law practice in Fayetteville, N.Y., concentrating on family law.

Thomas Fensch G’77 (NEW) wrote Behind Islands in the Stream: Hemingway, Cuba, the FBI, and the Crook Factory (Universe), which explores the back story of the Ernest Hemingway novel. Fensch is the author of 29 nonfiction books and is chair of the mass communications department at Virginia Union University in Richmond.

James L. Hale L’77 (LAW) of Webster, N.Y., takes a humorous look at golf in his new book, Golf Sonnets, which features 18 amusing illustrated Shakespearean sonnets about the links from tee to green (www.GolfSonnets.com).

Steven A. Paquette ’77 (NEW), L’79 (LAW), an attorney with the Syracuse law firm of Green & Seifter, co-conducted a seminar at the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce. The presentation offered insight to businesses regarding New York State increases in investigations into sales tax delinquency.

Claire Cook ’77 (A&S/NEW), best-selling fiction author, wrote Seven Year Switch (Hyperion Voice), a warm and funny novel about a single mom whose life is changed when her ex-husband returns. Cook is the author of six previous novels, including Must Love Dogs, which became a Warner Bros. movie starring Diane Lane and John Cusack. Married with two grown children, she lives in Scituate, Mass., and offers writing support and free reinvention workshops for women (www.clairecook.com).

Victor Vallo Jr. G’78 (VPA) is professor of music and chair of the music department at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville, Ga. He was formerly chair of the music department at Immaculata University in Pennsylvania (2004-10) and the music director/conductor of the Anderson Symphony Orchestra in South Carolina (2001-04).

Karen J. Docter G’78 (CHE), G’81 (EDU), L’90 (LAW) was honored by Onondaga Community College in Syracuse to be part of Alumni Faces, a permanent display recognizing alumni who have made significant contributions to the betterment of society through their professional pursuits, community involvement, and humanitarian efforts. Docter has a law practice in Fayetteville, N.Y., concentrating on family law.
Patriot’s Day is always an event for people from the Boston area. Held annually on the third Monday in April, it commemorates the battles of Lexington and Concord that launched the American Revolution and is celebrated with a holiday, the Boston Marathon, and a Red Sox game at Fenway Park. Being a Massachusetts native, it was even more special for me in 2010. I had the privilege of running in the Boston Marathon for a courageous little girl.

Her name is Avery and she is the 6-year-old daughter of Mike Toole ’90 and his wife, Cheryl. Mike is the first person I met at Syracuse when I was a freshman and has remained one of my best friends ever since. Avery has already overcome more challenges than I could ever imagine my kids facing. She has undergone nine open-heart surgeries since she was born. In March 2009, her heart failed, but she was revived and began a long, painful stay in the hospital.

Avery was on life support four times before it was determined she needed a heart transplant. She was put on a list to receive a heart in June 2009 and for two months was kept alive with a Berlin Heart, an artificial device that kept her heart functioning until a donor was found. On August 6, the Tooles received news that a donor had been located and Avery received her heart.

None of this would have been possible without the medical team at Children’s Hospital in Boston. The caring physicians and staff gave her a second chance at life. Avery remained in Children’s until October 22, when she was finally healthy enough to return home.

When Avery was in the hospital, a group of Mike’s SU friends tried to come up with a way to help the family during these tough times. The Tooles requested that anything we decided to do should benefit Children’s. The six of us brainstormed over the phone. During one of those moments when your heart takes over for your head, I said that maybe I could run the marathon to raise money for Children’s.

After a little investigation, I learned of Children’s Miles for Miracles program. In early October my application was accepted to join the program and run in the 114th Boston Marathon. I immediately set out to start the training—and the fund raising. With the help of former Orange classmates David Spindler ’90, Christopher Muratore ’90, Andrew Lill ’90, Pratish Patel ’90, and Steve Trofkin ’90 and Mike’s friend Mark Berman, we found out just how generous people can be, even in these trying economic times.

The race was everything I could have imagined. I stayed with the Tooles for two days leading up to the marathon and went to the hospital’s reception with Cheryl and Avery on Saturday. Hearing the stories of people who would be helped by the money we raised was one of the most emotionally moving and uplifting events I have ever experienced. It made me realize that what we were doing for Children’s was much more important than my finishing time in the race.

The family brought me to the starting line in Hopkinton and wished me well as I ran the 26-plus miles to downtown Boston. The crowd was outstanding and the experience was one I will always remember. With everything that goes on in life, it is not often that you get to do something that can really benefit people both now and in the future. It was a great feeling knowing that our group helped the Tooles, other children, and their families have a better life. I am so grateful that Mike, Cheryl, and Avery allowed me to do this for them. It’s been 24 years since Mike and I met during orientation back in 1986, but the friendships that all of us made at SU are still going strong.

Mike Tuberosa ’90 lives in Philadelphia, where he is the assistant athletic director for communications at Drexel University. For more information on his fund-raising effort and to read more about Avery, visit https://howtohelp.childrenshospital.org/bostonmarathon/pfp/?ID=TM0066.
LISA KWASNOWSKI-FARB ’00 HAD NO IDEA WHEN SHE stumbled upon Syracuse University on the way back from visiting SUNY Oswego in 1996 that she was starting a Kwasonwski family tradition. But since her enrollment at SU, four siblings have followed. In fact, two of Lisa’s sisters were on campus together this year: Nicole graduated in May, and Liz, the fifth to attend, just completed her first year. “We’ve had the same SU sticker on our car for 14 years now,” Liz says. No one from the Kwasnowski family imagined so many of them would attend the same school, but they all found SU satisfied their differing academic interests. Lisa majored in finance and marketing, while David ’02 studied biology, and Andrew ’05 majored in civil engineering. Nicole studied psychology and child and family studies, and Liz is a sport management major. “Even though we all went to Syracuse, we managed to find diversity within the University,” Andrew says.

Although they pursued different majors, the five have shared similar experiences on campus. A family of Orange fans, they frequented football and basketball games. David and Andrew even traveled to New Orleans in 2003 to see the Orange win the NCAA basketball championship, while Nicole journeyed to Memphis in 2009 to watch Syracuse play in the Sweet 16. The four oldest all worked at Faegan’s Pub, and Liz expects to do the same. Lisa, Andrew, Nicole, and Liz participated in Greek life, with Nicole and Liz both members of the Delta Gamma sorority. Overall, the five have found Syracuse to offer a good balance of work and fun, and feel that campus, a three-hour drive from their home in Kingston, New York, is just far enough away to give them independence.

Lisa recently married Jon Farb ’00, adding to the family’s Orange glow. The family has also collected other SU fans along the way. Steve Latour ’80 married father Dave Kwasnowski’s sister, Meg, while David and Andrew were in school. “Jon and I now consider ourselves the branches to the SU/Kwasnowski family tree,” Latour says. And that tree could be branching out even more: Several cousins, now in high school, have SU on their radar. There is also the matter of the youngest Kwasnowski, Lauren, a high school junior who will begin her college search this fall. Perhaps this SU connection isn’t a coincidence after all. “We promote the school to family members, teammates of my children, everyone,” says Linda Kwasnowski, mother of the six. “SU has been like a home away from home for all of my children. They’ve all been so happy there.”

Parents Dave and Linda Kwasnowski have been happy with SU, too. When Linda first visited the University with Lisa, she remembers feeling an immediate connection. “I fell in love with Syracuse the minute I walked on the campus,” she says. Like their kids, the Kwasnowskis were attracted to Syracuse’s sports, academic, and study abroad programs as well as the overall campus appeal. While covering college costs for five children through more than a decade hasn’t been the easiest task, Linda, a school nurse, and Dave, a schoolteacher, are glad their kids have thrived during their time on the Hill. Although they chose to forgo a few personal luxuries, Dave and Linda are thankful the five have earned scholarships and grants to augment the SU financial aid packages. Overall, Dave and Linda agree it has all been worth it. “Financially, it has been a sacrifice for my wife and me,” Dave says, “but the returns on our investment are priceless.” —Kelsey Bennett
Amin Al-Ahmad '92

FROM THE HEART

IF WE LIVE IN AN AGE OF SPECIALIZATION, AMIN AL-AHMAK ‘92 has not heard the news. A bioengineering major at the L.C Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science, he graduated summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and was a University Scholar. Turning his attention to medicine, he earned an M.D. degree at Tufts and, while interning at Tufts-New England Medical Center, received the hospital’s award for outstanding patient care. Since joining the Stanford medical faculty in 2003, he has won the E. William Hancock Cardiovascular Medicine Teaching Award, been named a faculty fellow, and was appointed medical director of the Cardiac Electrophysiology Laboratory. A researcher and inventor, Al-Ahmad is co-holder of the patent for an in-vivo physiological monitoring system that enhances the view of the heart during surgical procedures. A prolific writer, he regularly publishes in medical journals and has co-edited two books: Electroanalytical Mapping (2008) and Pacemakers and Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillators (2010). How does he find the time to engage—and excel—in all these pursuits? “I often come in to work very early, so as not to take time away from the family,” Al-Ahmad says.

Achieving academic excellence did not prevent Al-Ahmad from taking part in campus life at SU. He has particularly fond memories of working as a tutor in the SummerStart program. “Most of the students were from less advantaged schools and they were trying to make sure they were ready to start college,” he says. “It was a blast. It led me to get involved in other tutoring programs at the University.” In his senior year, he was elected president of the SU chapter of Tau Pi Beta, the national engineering honor society, and was named a member of the inaugural group of Remembrance Scholars. “Sometimes we joked that as engineering majors, we lived in the basement of Link Hall and didn’t see the light of day much,” Al-Ahmad says. “But actually, the campus life was fairly rich. I got to know a lot of people and make friends in different areas.”

When Al-Ahmad applied to medical schools some 20 years ago, his engineering degree was considered an unusual credential. But times have changed. “It’s become more common for med students to be bioengineering majors, especially if they go into certain high-tech fields, such as my field [clinical cardiac electrophysiology] or orthopedic surgery, where the engineering background helps them.” Al-Ahmad also believes that physicians and engineers have much to say to each other. He has on several occasions hosted L.C. Smith engineering students at his Stanford lab, showing them, first-hand, how they can apply their skills. In January, two bioengineering majors, Joey Priola ’10 and Mari Allison ’10, spent a week as his guests on the California campus. “We benefit a lot from engineering advances,” says Al-Ahmad, who is working on a technique for generating 3-D images of the heart. “At Stanford, we now have engineers who come in and do clinical support work, solving real patient problems with new designs. I am no longer a practicing engineer, but I do know when I need one.”

—David Marc

Cheryl Bernstein ’79 (NEW) married Brian Hebb. They reside in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Laurie Fabiano ’79 (VPA) wrote Elizabeth Street (AmazonEncore), a multigenerational historical fiction based on her own family narratives and a deep understanding of the Italian American experience.

Gary A. Grossman ’79 (WSM), a managing partner at Green & Seifter Certified Public Accountants in Syracuse, joined the Everson Museum of Art board of directors. He also earned the personal financial counselor designation with MHN Government Services, allowing him to provide financial management services to military families and service members.

Sharon A. McAuliffe G’79, (MAX), L’92 (LAW) of Jamesville, N.Y., an attorney with Green & Seifter, spoke at the 2010 Estate Planning Update held in Syracuse.

William J. Rita ’79 (A&S) and wife Ena Marini announce the birth of their son, William Fabrizio. They reside in New York City.
Gaëlle Simon ‘00

WHEN HER MOTHER CALLED FROM HAITI SOON AFTER THE earthquake hit on January 12, Gaëlle Simon ‘00 knew her family and childhood home were safe. It wasn’t until she turned on CNN in her Washington, D.C., apartment that night that she realized the enormity of the situation. Weeks later, she would see the devastation firsthand, returning to her homeland with Global Relief Technologies (GRT), a company that uses mapping, satellite imagery, and satellite communications to collect information for organizations involved in relief efforts. “Downtown Port-au-Prince—the political and economic heart of the country—was destroyed,” Simon says. “It’s heartbreaking.”

Last summer, Simon worked with GRT mapping schools in Haiti. After the earthquake, she reconnected with the company to assist in its latest mission: establishing a central database of Haitian amputees for manufacturers, worldwide, that will create custom prosthetics. Simon traveled with a group visiting hospitals and other health care centers, assessing individual amputees and entering the information into handheld devices for transmission to GRT headquarters in New Hampshire. Simon stressed the importance of understanding and organizing the rehabilitation needs for these patients. “These amputees need access to housing and public places, like supermarkets,” she says. “It’s not like the U.S. In Haiti there are rarely ramps for the handicapped.”

Simon came to the United States from Haiti to study in the School of Education’s Inclusive Elementary and Special Education Teacher Preparation Program. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree, Simon attended the Harvard Graduate School of Education, earning a master’s degree in education policy in 2001. She had planned to teach, but after attending Harvard, her interests shifted to policy. She was further inspired to pursue a career in education policy while volunteering as a teacher in rural Namibia in 2002.

Since then, she has worked with the Education Development Center, a global nonprofit organization aimed at addressing the world’s most urgent challenges in education, and the American Institutes for Research (AIR) on education projects in Africa and Haiti. As the project manager for a $27 million AIR-led project in Haiti, Simon first paired up with GRT in August 2009, creating a geographic information system (GIS) map of schools in Haiti and recording the number of students and faculty at each school and their available resources.

Rebuilding the education system—physically and administratively—poses many issues for the Haitian Ministry of Education, especially since 85 percent of the nation’s schools are private. “This is an opportunity for the public sector to build up a new system for quality, free public education,” she says. “The problem is this requires funding that isn’t there right now.”

While GRT’s relief projects usually last no more than six months, Simon plans to stay in Haiti and assist with other relief efforts for at least a year. With family and friends struggling to rebuild their businesses and lives, Simon has many options to continue her service work. “My father’s construction company will need more management support as we start to rebuild, or I might work to rebuild schools and improve education services,” she says.

—Kate Morin
Steven Lewis ’79

BUILDING DIVERSITY IN ARCHITECTURE

ARCHITECT STEVEN Lewis ’79 is devoted to designing and building a new paradigm within the profession, one that places a high value on diversity and honors architects of all races and colors as having an important role in bringing positive change to the world. That commitment was instilled in him early on by his father, Roger C. Lewis, who founded his own firm in New York City at a time when there were minimal advancement opportunities for black architects. “My dad is my beacon,” says Lewis, principal project manager at Parsons Corporation in Pasadena, California. “Working for him afforded me a deep understanding of the dynamics of the profession and the challenges of running a firm, particularly as a person of color.”

As president of the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA), Lewis leads the design community in healing what he calls “the structural inequalities” still prevalent within it. He believes SU’s School of Architecture has taken important steps in that effort by offering numerous scholarships targeted for students of color. But much remains to be done throughout the profession to create an environment that nurtures and empowers minority architects in their education and careers. “At NOMA, we are primarily concerned with increasing diversity within enrollment and among faculty in schools of architecture and overall in the profession,” says Lewis, a former School of Architecture advisory board member who remains closely connected to fellow SU alumni. “Even today, that’s a daunting task.”

Lewis’s own career as an architect has been a multifaceted journey that serves as a model of what is possible for others. He left his father’s company in the early ’80s to establish RAW International in Los Angeles with two young partners, also African American. “We built a practice together for more than 20 years,” he says. “We took risks to establish ourselves as a design firm, and really helped dispel the myth that black architects are poor businessmen who don’t get paid. That’s important, especially when you are trying to recruit young people.” In 2004, Lewis left L.A. temporarily and moved with his wife and daughter to Washington, D.C., to accept “the opportunity of a lifetime” by serving with the U.S. General Services Administration as a program manager with the Office of the Chief Architect. In that role, he worked toward achieving design excellence and fiscal accountability in federal projects ranging from new courthouses and border stations to preservation of historic structures.

In 2006, Lewis entered the prestigious Loeb Fellowship program at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, where he organized a symposium to address issues of race in the architecture profession. He also led a team of Harvard students in designing and building a community center in South Africa to support Art AIDS, an organization aimed at improving—through education, economic development, and creative endeavors—the quality of life for women and children in communities ravaged by AIDS. “Every day of that fellowship was rewarding, but this project was the most gratifying,” says Lewis, who considers service a motivating factor in all he does. “Service is where my heart is. It is so empowering to help create a light at the end of a dark tunnel for those who are suffering through hard times. So I go out every day, just living my life as publicly and visibly as I can, and never refusing a phone call.”

—Amy Speach
a list of attorneys in Upstate New York selected by their professional peers as hardworking, results-oriented, and capable lawyers.

Madelyn Sergel ’84 (VPA) is founder and co-artistic director of Clockwise Theatre in Waukegan, Ill.


Terri Ginsberg ’85 (VPA) of New York City published her third book, the encyclopedic volume Historical Dictionary of Middle Eastern Cinema (Scarecrow Press). She has taught at Rutgers University and Manhattanville College, and serves on the board of directors of the International Council for Middle East Studies in Washington, D.C.


Jessica Hoffman Carroll ’86 (A&S), managing director of information technology at the United States Golf Association, was named by Computerworld magazine as one of the “Premier 100 IT Leaders for 2010.” She was one of only 10 women to make the list.

Sam Liss ’86 (LCS), director of business development at Harvard University, works in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, licensing innovative new technologies to other companies.

Lucia Perillo G’86 (A&S) was nominated for the 2010 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry for Inseminating the Elephant (Copper Canyon Press), a collection of poems, often humorous, that examine popular culture, the limits of the human body, and everyday experience.

Michael Rinella ’86 (MAX) of Albany, N.Y., is an instructor of political theory at Empire State College. He wrote Pharmacology: Plato, Drug Culture, and Identity in Ancient Athens (Lexington Books).

Robert Siegel ’86 (ARC) presented a lecture at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I., introducing the Robert Siegel Architects Movement exhibition, which includes models, drawings, and full-scale detail mock-ups of the firm’s work.

Karen Morrison Harr ’87 (NEW) ran the 114th Boston Marathon, and placed 69th in “overall female” at the Pittsburgh Marathon with a personal record time of 3:37:03.

Pamela Rosen Schanwald ’87 (NUR), CEO of The Children’s Home of Pittsburgh & Lemieux Family Center, was awarded the prestigious Diamond Award for 2010 by the Pittsburgh Business Times for her unwavering dedication to finding and solving gaps in the continuum of care for the children of Western Pennsylvania.

Peter Thomas Senese ’87 (CHE/WSM), a best-selling author, wrote Chasing the Cyclone (Pacific structure), a novel inspired by the true story of his successful worldwide search for his criminally abducted young son (www.chasingthecyclone.com). He produced and narrated Chasing Parents: Raging into the Storms of International Parental Child Abduction, a documentary film used by governments around the world for educational purposes. He was also a lead advocate of the Child Prevention Abduction Act, a landmark bill recently passed in Florida (www.floridachildabductionpreventionact.info). He lives with his son in Hollywood Hills.

Pamela Parsons Alvord ’88 (NEW) of the United States Golf Association, was named by Computerworld magazine as one of the “Premier 100 IT Leaders for 2010.” She was one of only 10 women to make the list.

Mike Padilla G’88 (A&S) wrote The Girls from the Revolutionary Cantina (St. Martin’s Press), a contemporary comedic novel about two success-driven Latina women living in Los Angeles.

Elizabeth Rosenthal G’88 (NEW) wrote Birdwatcher (Lyons Press), a biography of 20th-century naturalist Roger Tory Peterson, who originated the concept of the field guide (www.petersonbird.com).

Brian A. Caswell G’89 (WSM) of Phoenix, N.Y., received the Arthur J. Dixon Public Service Award from the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants in recognition of his ongoing commitment to the community. Caswell is president of Caswell & Associates, which celebrates its 75th anniversary this year. He and his wife, Maureen, have two daughters, Bridget and Lauren.

Paula Charland O’Callaghan L’89 (LAW/WSM), an assistant professor in the M.B.A. program at the University of Maryland University College, and husband, Jerome O’Callaghan G’88 (MAX), associate dean of Arts and Sciences and associate professor of political science at SUNY Cortland, co-wrote “Gossip, the Office, and the First Amendment,” which won the award for “best paper” at the North East Academy of Legal Studies in Business.

Teresa Hansen Granger ’90 (NEW), a graphic designer at Modern Press, was awarded the Junior League of Albany Sustainer Bowl in recognition of her outstanding service in the league and community. She lives in Halfmoon, N.Y., with her husband, Jeff, and twins Maggie and Sam.

Andrew Milner ’90 (A&S/NEW) is a contributing writer to The Sandheim Review and Baseball: A Journal of the Early Game. This year marks his 15th anniversary as a regular contributor to The Philadelphia City Paper. He was also interviewed by Robert S. Lyons for his book On Any Given Sunday: A Life of Bert Bell (Temple University Press).

Joseph Nelson ’90 (A&S), a vice president at TD Bank in Glastonbury, Conn., brings 20 years of commercial lending and retail banking experience to the position. He also is treasurer of the First Congregational Church in Bristol, Conn., and is a coach and board member of the local Little League.

Katrina Demetrick Russo ’90 (VPA) of Liverpool, N.Y., was promoted from vice president to president and CEO of Seneca Federal Savings and Loan Association and was elected to the bank’s board of directors.

Gordon Barrett ’91 (A&S) is the 2010 “Worshipful Master” of Union Lodge No. 19, Free and Accepted Masons, in North Brunswick, N.J.

John Bevilacqua ’91 (CHE) of Los Angeles, directed the TV pilot for Silver Lake, a show about 30-something artists struggling with love, dating, and artistic integrity in the artistic community epicenter of L.A. (www.silverlake.tv).

Robert Guyette ’91 (A&S) of De Pere, Wis., was awarded his third Teacher of Distinction honor by the Green Bay Area Partners in Education. A teacher of language arts and social studies at De Pere High School for nine years, he advises the school newspaper and created two unique courses: Language Arts 9 for Boys Only, and Sports and Society.

Kim Lindfield ’91 (A&S), a senior manager of biostatistics at Cubist Pharmaceuticals of Lexington, Mass., was named “Manager of the Year” at the company’s annual awards ceremony. She and a group of colleagues were also honored as “Team of the Year.”

Kenneth H. Milch ’91 (EDU/VPA) and wife Carla announce the birth of Alan Harris, who joins sisters Cassandra, Samantha, and Rebecca. Milch is assistant principal at Lamphere High School in Madison Heights, Mich., where he was the band director for 14 years.

Michael Rosa G’91 (A&S) is assistant vice president and branch manager of Citizens Bank in Bristol, R.I.

Todd Selig ’91 (A&S/MAX), administrator for the Town of Durham, N.H., has been named chair of the New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies board.

George Chester Chao ’92 (A&S/MAX) of Pittsburgh earned a master’s degree in aeronautical science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona, Fla.

Amy McCoy ’92 (NEW) of Rehoboth, Mass., wrote the cookbook Poor Girl Gourmet: Eat in Style on a Bare-Bones Budget (Andrews McMeel Publishing).

Matt Prohaska ’92 (NEW/WSM) is CEO of Smartclip, an online video advertising network.
and universities across the country will look to SU as the center of excellence in this regard—a place that supplies information, ideas, and support for post-secondary education for students with developmental disabilities, and serves as a model for providing an inclusive experience encompassing all aspects of college life.

The Taishoffs have made a family affair of their dedication to SU, where they met as students at a Muscular Dystrophy dance marathon. Rob was inducted as a trustee last fall, and Laurie is a new member of the SU Alumni Association (SUAA) Board of Directors. “We both consider it an honor and a privilege to serve the University,” says Laurie Taishoff, who grew up in Central New York and has been an SU sports fan since childhood. The Taishoffs now make their home in Annapolis, Maryland, where Rob recently retired as a captain in the U.S. Navy. “Attending SU and now serving on the board with so many dedicated fellow alumni is the culmination of my commitment to a place I love,” she says.

A Newhouse School graduate and former broadcast journalist whose first job was in the news department at WHEN radio in Syracuse, Taishoff is currently focused on raising their children: 8-year-old daughter Jackie, 6-year-old son Jamey, and 3-year-old son Maks, adopted from Russia last year. “These three are my career now,” she says with a laugh. “Like any kids, they have their good moments and their bad moments. They are a blessing and they are a joy! But they are also a handful!”

She brings that same cheerful affection to her duties on the SUAA board, where she serves on the structure committee, reviewing the association’s by-laws. “This committee really appealed to me as a way to ensure a strong and vibrant alumni association,” Taishoff says. “As a board member, I want to encourage all alumni to have a lifelong commitment to Syracuse University, starting from the time they are students.”

—Amy Speach

LAURIE BEAN TAISHOFF ’84 AND ROBERT P. TAISHOFF ’86 were inspired by their daughter, Jackie, to help educate society about the special skills, talents, and perceptions of young people with developmental disabilities, and to create educational opportunities for them beyond high school. Toward these goals, the Taishoff Family Foundation committed $1 million to establish the Lawrence B. Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education at the School of Education, named in honor of Rob’s father. “Rob and I both feel it is important to help open the avenues of opportunity to everyone,” Laurie Taishoff says. The Taishoffs hope individuals and universities across the country will look to SU as the center of

Richard Wald ’92 (NEW/WSM), a financial advisor at Merrill Lynch in the San Francisco Bay area, was recognized by Barron’s magazine on its list of “America’s Top 1,000 Advisors: State by State.” He lives in Alamo, Calif., with wife Jillian, and daughters Hannah and Ashley.

Erin Barrett Cunia ’93 (A&S), G’05 (EDU) and husband Demetrius Cunia ’80 (A&S), G’84 (WSM), G’95 (IST) celebrated their sixth wedding anniversary. Demetrius works in New York City with the CUNYfirst program, an initiative to implement a single, unified enterprise resource planning system on all CUNY campuses.

Frank A. Guridy ’93 (A&S), assistant professor of history at the University of Texas at Austin, wrote Forging Diaspora: Afro-Cubans and African Americans in a World of Empire and Jim Crow (UNC Press).

Ari Markenson ’93 (A&S), a counsel attorney with Benesch in White Plains, N.Y., was the 2010 chair of the health law section of the New York State Bar Association’s annual meeting. The health law section organizes health care law education programs, makes recommendations on health care law and policy, publishes the Health Law Journal, and provides a forum for health care attorneys.

Mitchell Rosenwald G’93 (MAX), a social work professor at Barry University in Miami Shores, Fla., co-wrote Advocating for Children in Foster and Kinship Care: A Guide to Getting the Best out of the System for Caregivers and Practitioners (Columbia University).

Jeremy Gilmore Haskins ’94 (A&S) and husband Kevin, of Charleston, S.C., announce the birth of their daughter, Briar Dawes.

Ahna R. Skop ’94 (A&S) of Sun Prairie, Wis., received the Forward Under 40 Award from the Wisconsin Alumni Association. Skop teaches genetics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
and is an advocate for the PEOPLE pre-college enrichment program and minority students in science. She also maintains a cooking blog (foodsok.wordpress.com), as well as one related to her jewelry designs (beadskop.com).

Mark R. Stover ’94 (A&S) is serving a three-year term on the board of directors for the National Hydropower Association. He is the vice president of corporate affairs for Hydro Green Energy in Houston.

Catherine Terry ’94 (VPA), founder of Exceptional Events Etc., married C. David Corbin. They reside in New York City and Portsmouth, N.H.

Thomas Wailgum ’94 (NEW) earned the 2009 National Digital Azbee Gold Award from the American Society of Business Publication Editors for his slideshow on Starbucks’ executive-immersion program. He is a senior editor at CIO.com, and his work has also appeared on NYTimes.com and Businessweek.com, and he has been a guest on NPR’s “Talk of the Nation,” discussing telecommuting.

Christopher Babcock G’95 (WSM) is a senior manager with Accenture in Reston, Va.

Gregory Komarow ’95 (A&S) is group human resources director at Amplex in Dubai. Amplex is a Danish company that operates as a leader in utilities/smart grid technology solutions.

Kristi Lockhart ’95 (EDU), a school counselor for Chesterfield Co., Va., for the past 15 years, received the 2010 Roy J. Ward Employee Leadership Recognition Award from the Virginia State Rehabilitation Council for her exceptional service to the field of vocational rehabilitation.

Kevin Stone ’95 (A&S) owns the Jug Handle Inn in Cinnaminson, N.J. The inn’s “world famous” wings were featured on the Food Network show, The Best Thing I Ever Ate and on ABC’s The View. He lives in Marlton, N.J., with his wife and three sons.

Jane L. Wals ’95 (CHE), a digital art teacher at Pelham (N.Y.) Memorial High School for 13 years, was inducted into Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in education. She was also recognized by her peers for achievement and leadership in education at a ceremony held at Manhattanville College.

Andrew Wasif ’95 (NEW) wrote Red Sox Fans are from Mars, Yankees Fans are from Uranus (Triumph Books), a follow-up to Red Sox University. He is also featured in Red Sox and Philosophy (Open Court Press). His blog is at www.sports-fanlive.com/wasifsworld.

Kerry R. Wills ’95 (WSM) of Southington, Conn., wrote Essential Project Management Skills (CRC Press), which focuses on the skills needed by project managers.

Stacey Lyons Berk ’96 (A&S) and husband Craig Berk ’96 (A&S) of Rockville, Md., announce the birth of their daughter, Sloane Emma.

Andrea L. Calvaruso L’96 (LAW) of Brooklyn, N.Y., joined the law firm of Kelley & Warren as a partner and chair of the trademark and copyright group in the intellectual property practice.

Nicole Peoples Fagan ’96 (CHE) and Cobb Fagan announce the birth of their son, Cobb Carpenter Fagan Jr. They reside in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

Christofer Guisti ’96 (NEW) and wife Marta announce the birth of their daughter, Maia Cristina. They reside in Norwich, Conn.

Gran LeCompte ’96 (A&S) is managing director of employee benefits at MDW Insurance Group in Coral Gables, Fla.

Christopher F. Lonegro ’96 (LCS), an intellectual property attorney with Ober, Kaler, Grimes & Shriver in Baltimore, is on the list of “Maryland Super Lawyers” published in the January 2010 issue of the Maryland Super Lawyers magazine.

Janelle White Wolfe ’96 (NEW) of Morgantown, Pa., is a guest host on the home shopping network, QVC.

Edmund Harvey ’97 (WSM) of Durham, N.H., is directing the Fifth Annual Aggieman Triathlon Adventure (www.aggieman.org) and the University of New Hampshire Mendum’s Tri Series of races (www.active.com). Proceeds benefit the humanitarian aid efforts in Ethiopia led by Wide Horizons for Children, a Waltham, Mass.-based organization.

Neil Leary ’97 (A&S) and wife Joanna of West Hartford, Conn., announce the birth of their daughter, Mia Catherine.

Hilary Lopata-Nawoj G’97 (EDU), director of the Clinton Elementary Beginner Band in the Clinton (N.Y.) Central School District, led her students to a first-place win in the fourth-grade beginner band division of the “Making Young Bands Flourish” competition sponsored by Band Brilliance Publishing.

Merrill Rosen Lynn ’97 (NEW) and husband Jake Lynn ’96 (A&S) of Edison, N.J., announce the birth of their son, Miles Ryan, who joins brother Harrison.

Sharon Forman Sender ’97 (A&S) and husband Craig Sender ’97 (NEW) of Brookline, Mass., announce the birth of their son, Caleb James, who joins sister Hannah. Craig is the senior public relations manager at Copyright Clearance Center.

Thomas F. Slater G’97 (IST), executive director of the Food Bank of Central New York, was honored by Onondaga Community College in Syracuse to be part of Alumni Faces, a permanent display recognizing alumni who have made significant contributions to the betterment of society through their professional pursuits, community involvement, and humanitarian efforts.


Edward Goldis ’98 (A&S), an attorney with Lowenstein Sandler in Morristown, N.J., was named in the 2010 edition of New Jersey Rising Stars, which recognizes the state’s top up-and-coming lawyers.

Laureen Vertal Wolpoff ’98 (NEW) and husband Jason announce the birth of their son, Jacob Dylan. Wolpoff is an account manager with Gensler & Associates in New York City.

Amy Komoroski Wiwi ’98 (VPA), an attorney with Lowenstein Sandler in Morristown, N.J., was named in the 2010 edition of New Jersey Rising Stars, which recognizes the state’s top up-and-coming lawyers.

Shannon Beavis Bender ’99 (EDU) and husband Damon Bender ’99 (A&S) of Valley Cottage, N.Y., announce the birth of their daughter, Madison Olivia, who joins brother Jacob.
Summer 2010 | 61

Q&A

IS THE TRAIN DUE?
A conversation with James McCommons about traveling by rail in America

JAMES MCCOMMONS G’93 IS A FREELANCE WRITER whose work has appeared in *The Los Angeles Times, Audubon,* and other major publications. In his 2009 book, *Waiting on a Train: The Embattled Future of Passenger Rail Service* (Chelsea Green), he catalogs a year spent riding what is left of the once great American rail passenger system, hoping to understand the role its revival might play in the nation’s future. *A Library Journal* “best book of the year,” *Waiting on a Train* is neither sentimental eulogy nor utopian vision, but rather a practical case for making train travel a viable choice in an integrated national transportation system. McCommons, who earned master’s degrees in magazine journalism at the Newhouse School and environmental science at SUNY ESF, teaches journalism and nature writing at Northern Michigan University in Marquette. He spoke with associate editor David Marc about the future of train travel.

WHY SHOULD THE U.S. INVEST IN A PASSENGER RAIL SYSTEM?
We’ve poured hundreds of billions of dollars into roads and aviation, but haven’t invested much in rail. Partly, that’s because through the 19th and the first half of the 20th century, passenger service was a private business operated by railroads carrying both freight and people. When that private business model no longer worked and railroads got out of passenger service in the early ’70s, government set up Amtrak, but it didn’t really invest in it or create business partnerships with the private railroads that own most of the nation’s rail infrastructure. Consequently, it’s no surprise we have an anemic passenger rail system. It’s what we paid for.

DO YOU THINK TRAIN TRAVEL IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE WAY AMERICANS LIVE?
The nation hasn’t had a robust rail system since the 1950s, and most Americans have little experience with trains. But when they take the train, despite some of the hassles of Amtrak, they say, “This is nice.” It’s a comfortable and less stressful travel experience and they can use their laptops and electronic devices for entertainment or to be productive while traveling. The Acela trains in the Northeast, the closest thing Amtrak has to a high-speed system, now have wireless Internet, and other routes are adding it. It’s a great setup for telecommuting.

When I was traveling, I was impressed with the corridor trains in California, which are operated in a partnership between the state and Amtrak. California may have a car culture, but it has been proactive in building rail corridors between its major cities, and it is now developing an 800-mile system of 200 mph bullet trains. California sees rail as a transportation solution to cope with a growing population and congested highway and air networks.

Other states significantly investing in corridor services are Washington, Illinois, North Carolina, and Wisconsin. Until recently, they were investing on their own. Matching federal funds were only available for highways.

IS THERE MOMENTUM FOR LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO PASSENGER RAIL?
The game-changer is the next transportation bill, which has been called the “highway bill” because that’s where most of the money has gone. Highways will still get the bulk of funding, but this time, a portion will be set aside for rail. I’ve also been encouraged by the $8 billion in the stimulus package that the Obama administration pledged for developing “high-speed” trains. Now that matching federal dollars are becoming available and the administration is showing some leadership, many states, including New York, are drawing up plans to bolster their train service, usually in some kind of partnership with Amtrak. And the freight railroads are showing interest because they foresee a big opportunity to move more freight from highways to the rails. They’ll need government help to expand their networks, which will be good for both freight and passenger service.

It’s movement in the right direction, but we’re likely decades away from the rail system we once had in America. What’s required is a rethinking at the state and federal levels, where the focus has been inordinately on highways. And there has to be some sort of partnership forged with the private railroads. You can’t do it without them.

Trains are not going to supplant cars or airplanes, but they will give Americans an alternative. There are many travel corridors in this country—such as Buffalo-New York City, Chicago-St. Louis, and Houston-Dallas—where fast, frequent trains would compete very well.
Marilyn Smith Swift Tenny ‘42, a dedicated community volunteer and philanthropist, died on March 18, 2010, at her home in Indian Wells, California. Graduating from the College of Arts and Sciences with a degree in psychology, she married classmate Charles F. Swift ‘42 and moved to Los Angeles, where the couple lived until his death in 1959. She remarried, and in 1980 moved to Indian Wells with her second husband, William P. Tenny, when he retired. Together they contributed to the construction of an African village and animal preservation center at The Living Desert near Palm Springs and co-founded the McCallum Theatre for the Performing Arts in Palm Desert, California, along with Bob and Dolores Hope, and Gerald and Betty Ford.

Syracuse University benefited from the Tennyss’ generosity when they made a multimillion-dollar gift in 1999 to build the Marilyn and William Tenny Ice Skating Pavilion on South Campus. Tenny was also a major supporter of the College of Arts and Sciences, contributing to the Dean’s Educational Enrichment Fund, establishing an endowment fund to support the Swift Tenny Wing in the Life Sciences Complex, and helping launch the Center for Health and Behavior in the psychology department. In recognition of her many contributions to improving educational excellence and quality of life at SU, Marilyn Tenny received a 2002 Arents Award—SU’s highest alumni honor—for “excellence in the field of philanthropy.”

Milton F. Stevenson III ‘52, business leader and trustee emeritus of Syracuse University, died on December 17, 2009, in Jordan, New York. Born in Trenton, New Jersey, he called central new york his home since 1949, when he attended the L.C. Smith College of Engineering and Computer Science on the GI Bill following a stint with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In 1960 he founded the Anoplate Corporation, a metal-finishing company that is a leader in chemical waste management and serves as a resource for regulatory agencies in their efforts to improve the environment.

Stevenson was one of SU’s most avid sports fans and could often be seen wearing his signature orange socks, suspenders, and SU lapel pin. Over the years, he and his wife, Ann McOmber Stevenson ‘52, provided scholarships and academic support for student-athletes through contributions to the Student-Athlete Fund, Ernie Davis Football Fund, and Dave Bing Basketball Fund. In 1999, the Stevensons received Honorary LetterWinner of Distinction awards for their strong support for athletics, and the Educational Center in Manley Field House is named in their honor.

Stevenson made a lasting impact on SU in 2005 with a significant commitment to establish the Milton and Ann Stevenson Professor of Biomedical and Chemical Engineering. Thanks to this endowed professorship, the University was able to recruit a pioneering researcher at the promising junction of biomedical and chemical engineering. In honor of Stevenson’s commitment to all things Orange, a Celebration of Life Service was held at Hendricks Chapel.

E. Burr “Buzz” Gibson ’47, a pioneer in the field of philanthropy and one of the foremost leaders in philanthropic consulting, died on April 28, 2010, in New Jersey. Gibson touched the lives of millions of professional fund-raisers and volunteers during his long and distinguished career, most notably through his work as chairman of Marts & Lundy, one of the industry’s most respected fund-raising consulting firms. He was involved in many of the largest public and private campaigns across the country, and he was an inspiration and mentor to thousands of not-for-profit institutions, including Syracuse University. His insightful advice helped the University surpass its Commitment to Learning Campaign goal in the 1990s, and he played an important role in the early stages of SU’s current fund-raising effort—the Campaign for Syracuse University—the most ambitious fund-raising campaign in SU’s history.

After graduating from SU with a degree in business administration, Gibson went to work for the March of Dimes until he joined Marts & Lundy in 1964. His career with the firm took him to the highest levels of strategic development planning, and in 2008, he received the prestigious Council for Advancement and Support of Education Lifetime Achievement Award, which “honors an individual whose professional accomplishments have made a significant and lasting impact on the field of institutional advancement, and whose life and character have earned the respect and admiration of their professional colleagues.”

Chester P. “Chet” Soling ’54, architect, real estate developer, and philanthropist, died on April 29, 2010, in New Jersey. A self-described “outspoken eccentric” with a passion for creative thinking, Soling was interested in political activism, senior citizen advocacy, and music, among others. He was the retired founder and senior partner of the Manhattan-based Soling Patent Company (Solico), which was involved in real estate, mortgage banking, retail art, hotel and restaurant operations, general contracting, and computer services. An architect by trade, Soling developed unique construction projects, including Piper’s Hill, the first hotel designed for children; the Orchards hotel in Williamstown, Massachusetts; and the San Francisco Ship Model Gallery, a new york city art dealership that sold precisely scaled models of famous ships.

In addition to his considerable business interests and community service activities, Soling offered his time and talent to Syracuse, serving as president of SU’s Library Associates for 10 years, member of the SU Alumni Association board, and member of the University’s Board of Trustees. In 1983, he funded the innovative Soling Program for Qualities of Mind Development. Established in the College of Arts and Sciences, the Soling Program stimulates creative and independent thinking among undergraduates by focusing on interdisciplinary and collaborative work based on problem-solving, experiential learning, and originality. Soling’s career achievements and dedication to SU were recognized with a 1980 Arents Award and a 1994 Dean’s Outstanding Alumni Award from the School of Architecture.
Jason Down ’99 (A&S) married Amy Wirkkala. They reside in Hermiston, Ore., where Jason is a mixed animal veterinarian.

Kevin Fitzgerald ’99 (ARC) is a resource architect director at the American Institute of Architects in Washington, D.C., working with the Young Architects Forum, the National Associates Committee, and the American Institute of Architects Students to advance emerging professionals’ issues and initiatives. He is also defining and developing the AIA’s Center for Emerging Professionals.

Sari Roth Hitchins ’99 (NEW) and husband Charlie announce the birth of their daughter, Sydney Alexis. Sari is a line producer for MSNBC. They reside in East Brunswick, N.J.

Mark Donahue G’00 (NEW) was named a 2010-12 Senior Network Playwright at Chicago Dramatists. His play, Say Prix Fike, won a Great Plains Theatre Conference Main Stage Award and the Coe College Playwriting Award in 2009 and was runner-up in the 2008 Nancy Weil New Play Search. His other plays include Night Work (a 2007 Weil Play Search finalist) and Franchise S. He lives in Chicago with his wife and daughter and works as a copy editor at Penton Media.

Robin Lester ’00 (NEW) married William G. Kenton III. They reside in Brooklyn, N.Y.

John Mayer G’00 (EDU), Lincoln College Endowed Chair in Biomedical & Chiropractic Research in the College of Medicine at the event was hosted by the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Arielle Greenberg G’01 (A&S), an English professor at Columbia College-Chicago, co-edited Starting Today: 100 Poems for Obama’s First 100 Days (University of Iowa Press), an anthology of poems written during and responding to President Barack Obama’s first days in office.

Shara Cooke Hicks ’01 (A&S) and husband Sean Hicks ’95, G’98 (LCS) of Manassas, Va., announce the birth of twins, Jaron and Lema, who join sister Kyla.

Khalil Johnson ’01 (VPA) and wife Tiombe of Silver Spring, Md., announce the birth of their daughter, Adero.

Eric Lankes ’01 (ARC) is a senior associate with the Freelon Group architectural firm in Research Triangle Park, N.C.

Claude Liu G’01 (WSM) is associate director at Number Nine Consulting Asia Pacific Office in Hong Kong, a Paris-based marketing consultancy providing services in strategic marketing and marketing science. He was also admitted to the executive M.B.A. program at National Chengchi University in Taiwan, which is among the most highly regarded business schools in Asia.

Melissa Morgan ’01 (A&S/NEW) married Stephen Stewart. They reside in Norfolk, Va., where she is editor in chief of Hampton Roads Magazine and Virginia Wine Lover Magazine.

Brian Pollack ’01 (VPA) of Milburn, N.J., performed at City Center Encores! and created expressive and community programming for individuals with such severe multi-complex disabilities as Asberger syndrome, Down syndrome, and other developmental disabilities. This fall he will attend the New York University graduate school to become a licensed clinical social worker.

Nicole Ferring ’02 (NEW) married Karl Holovach ’02 (LCS). Nicole is a research associate at the Institute of Medicine in Washington, D.C., and Karl is a high school math teacher in Laurel, Md. They reside in Greenbelt, Md.

Julie Bailey Blanche ’03 (NEW) of Boston, an associate marketing director at Digitas marketing agency, was named one of the industry’s best “30 under 30” direct marketers by DM News. The list honors the brightest young superstars in the marketing industry.

Mary Beth Burke ’03 (A&S) married Shaun Neville ’03 (A&S). They reside in Manchester, N.H.

Carolyn Conley’03 (A&S) is a registered nurse in the hematology/oncology unit at St. Clair Hospital in Pittsburgh.

Joel J. Dowling ’03 (IST) is a felony trial assistant district attorney in the Kings County District Attorney Office in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Hilton Hallock G’03 (EDU/MAX) is vice president of academic affairs at New England College in Henniker, N.H.

Lisa Kelly ’03 (EDU) married Michael Lombardi ’03 (WSM). They reside in White Plains, N.Y.

Gregory Lawrence G’03 (WSM), G’04 (MAX), G’10 (WSM) has accepted a tenure track position as assistant professor of management at the University of Michigan, Flint.

Nicole Sayewitz Post ’03 (A&S) and husband Jay Post ’01 (WSM) of Plano, Texas, announce the birth of their son, Zachary Harris. Nicole is a senior product manager at JC Penney, and Jay is a manager with Archon Group, an investment management firm.

Todd Stevens ’03 (A&S) was promoted to COO at FASNY Federal Credit Union in Albany.

Brooke Alper ’04 (A&S) and Josh Lipschitz ’99 (A&S/WSM), G’01 (WSM) announce the birth of their son, Matthew Jacob, in May 2009. Josh is an assistant vice president of the Pershing Division of Bank of New York, and Brooke is associate director of alumni relations and annual giving at The Pingry School in Martinsville, N.J. They reside in West Orange, N.J.

Donna DeSisto G’04 (EDU), superintendent of the East Syracuse-Minoa Central School District, was honored by Onondaga Community College to be part of Alumni Faces, a permanent display recognizing alumni who have made significant
JOIN OUR WINNING TEAM

Just as donors joined together to make the “Melo Center” possible, thousands of alumni and friends have a tangible and immediate impact on SU every day by giving to The Fund for Syracuse. No matter how large or small, your gift combined with others can make a difference. Support whatever part of SU means the most to you:

> **Your school or college** for program development, equipment, or guest lecturers

> **Your favorite athletic teams**, intramural sports, or student-athletes

> **A special professor**, graduate assistant, or undergraduate student researcher

> **Students of talent and promise** with scholarships or other financial support

> **Special programs** in music, art, or dance that enrich the SU experience

To join our winning team, give now to The Fund for Syracuse at [givetosu.syr.edu](http://givetosu.syr.edu), or contact us at 315.443.1848.

THE FUND FOR SYRACUSE
giving.syr.edu

contributions to the betterment of society through their professional pursuits, community involvement, and humanitarian efforts.

**Alison Bennett ’05 (VPA)** married **Nick Lichtenberg ’05 (VPA)**. She is a communications associate for the Calhoun School and a comedy writer for the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre in New York City. He is a managing editor at Verdict-Search, a division of American Lawyer Media.

**Nicholas Fondulis ’05 (VPA)** guest-starred on 30 Rock as Jayden Michael Tyler and as Dr. Whitaker in the pilot episode of Mercy. He was a recurring character on the NBC drama Kings, and performs in New York City in the impov experience Accomplice: New York. Visit www.nickfondulis.com.

**Erin Gellert-Salsgiver G’05** (NEW) of Berea, Ohio, is the Midwest regional promotion manager for Q Prime, a management company representing such artists as Metallica, Muse, Silversun Pickups, Cage the Elephant, and Three Days Grace.

**Azania Smith Herron ’05** (NEW) is public and community relations specialist for Charlotte (N.C.) Area Transit System.

**Sarah Kantrowitz ’05 (A&S)** married **Adam Spagnolo ’04 (VPA)**. They reside in Manhattan, where she is employed as an associate editor at Travel + Leisure magazine and he is manager of creative services at Ann Taylor.

**Michelle Kelley MacEnroe G’09** (IST) and husband **Paul MacEnroe ’82 (A&S/NEW)** of Whitesboro, N.Y., announce the birth of their son, Alexander.

**Linda Ober ’05 (A&S/NEW)** married **Joshua Slade**. Linda is a Spanish teacher at Cortland (N.Y.) Junior-Senior High School, and Joshua is an information technology analyst at SU.

**Alexander Roberts ’05 (WSM)** will attend the Yale School of Management this fall to pursue an M.B.A. degree.

**Alexandra Alazio ’06 (NEW)**, a producer at Comcast Spotlight in Bloomingfield, N.J., won a 2010 Telly Award for her Summit Downtown commercial and co-produced a 75th anniversary commemorative video for the Adult School of Montclair, where she volunteers and teaches.

**Julia B. Joyce ’06 (A&S), L’09 (LAW)**, an attorney with the Syracuse law firm of Green & Seifert, co-conducted a seminar at the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce, offering insight to businesses regarding New York State increases in investigations into sales tax delinquency.

**Julio Martinez Manjarres G’06** (IST) is IT infrastructure manager at Servicios Nacional de Chocolates in Medellin, Colombia, an administrative offshoot of the diversified food conglomerate Grupo Nacional de Chocolates.

**Katherine O’Connor ’06** (NEW) assists the CEO of Legendary Pictures in Los Angeles.

**Michelle Carlton ’07** (NEW), an associate editor at media marketing company Studio One Networks, manages content on such sponsored sites as www.lifemdb.com and www.yourfamilytoday.com.

**Jessica L. Kuczynski ’07** (WSM) is a senior accountant in the audit department at Lumsden & McCormick in Buffalo, N.Y.

**Joseph M. Murphy ’07 (VPA)** completed a series of paintings for the SU publications office, depicting the University’s Joseph I. Lubin House in New York City. Two of the paintings were accepted in the Society of Illustrators of Los Angeles Illustration West 48 competition, on display at the ICON6 National Illustration Conference in Pasadena, Calif., in July.

**Barbara Newmeyer ’07 (A&S)** married **Bradley Seigfreid ’07 (WSM)**. They reside in Chicago.

**Christina Gibson ’08 (EDU)** is a fund-raising associate at US Lacrosse, the national governing body for men’s and women’s lacrosse. She is also a certified US Lacrosse Coaches Education Program Level I Trainer.

**Adam Novak ’08 (NEW)**, an associate at PAN Communications in Andover, Mass., received the Bronze Bell Award from the Publicity Club of New England, recognizing him as a public relations/communications practitioner who demonstrates a love of the field, dedication to his career, and a superior work ethic.

**Blake Stilwell G’08 (NEW)** is a senior multimedia technician with the White House Communications Agency, a special mission of the Defense Information Systems Agency within the Department of Defense.

**David W. Taylor ’08 (A&S)**, a doctoral candidate in molecular biophysics and biochemistry at Yale University, was named a 2010 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow. The award recognizes outstanding science and engineering students and provides them with further funding.

**Max Micallef ’09 (A&S/NEW)** is a production assistant at Discovery Studios in Silver Spring, Md.

**Andrea Serra ’09 (A&S/NEW)** of San Juan, Puerto Rico, is participating in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute’s Public Policy Fellowship Program in Washington, D.C. The institute is the nation’s premier Hispanic youth development and educational organization.

**Leland Strott ’09 (NEW)**, a social media marketing coordinator at MGH Inc. in Baltimore, manages social media accounts for a variety of clients, including Ocean City, Md., which was named one of the top 40 Facebook pages by KBuzz.

**Clark Van Der Beken ’09 (VPA)** is an assistant account executive at Grey Worldwide, a marketing and advertising agency in New York City.
When Wendy Harbour was 16, she didn’t let her hearing loss stop her from traveling to Japan as an exchange student. Now, she’s bringing that same fearless enthusiasm to Syracuse University’s School of Education. As the executive director of the Lawrence B. Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education, Harbour is leading the effort to make the college classroom a more open, accessible place for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Thanks to her expertise—and the generosity of Robert Taishoff ’86 and Laurie Bean Taishoff ’84—the Taishoff Center is poised to become the nation’s largest repository of research and practice in the field. More important, it’s demonstrating that for students with disabilities, higher education is well within reach.

Harbour teaches courses in disability studies, inclusive K-12 education, and disability in higher education as the Lawrence B. Taishoff Professor. Both the professorship and the Taishoff Center were made possible by a gift from the Taishoff Family Foundation.
Orange Central 2010 is where you’ll find everyone who “bleeds Orange,” including four special alums who are this year’s hosts:

1. **Jerry Stiller ’50** is a successful comedian and actor with a long list of critically acclaimed stage, film, and TV performances, including memorable roles in *Seinfeld* and *The King of Queens*.

2. **Floyd Little ’67**, the All-American running back and a legendary #44, went on to a stellar career with the Denver Broncos, and will be enshrined this summer into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

3. **Gary Radke ’73**, the internationally recognized humanities and fine arts professor, has opened SU students’ eyes to the wonders of Italian Renaissance architecture and art since 1980.

4. **Lakshmi Singh ’94** joined NPR’s award-winning Newscast Unit in 2000, and now is the radio network’s popular midday newscaster and field reporter.

Of course, there are plenty of other reasons to attend Orange Central. Watch for more details coming soon. Till then, check orangecentral.syr.edu for updates. Questions? E-mail sualumni@syr.edu or call 800.SUALUMS.

We—and our Orange Central co-chairs—look forward to seeing you October 14-17!