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Plattsburgh
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

HOTEL, RESTAURANT & TOURISM MANAGEMENT

The Business of Making People Happy
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Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management students Jason Hayes and Caitlin Bassegio work the back of the house at Samuel D’s Restaurant during the Thursday night dinner. Photo by Rose McNulty

Left: Kana Takekoshi, Nicholas Gallo and Carolyn Campbell prepare tables in Samuel D’s Restaurant. Photo by Rose McNulty
THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY IS ONE OF THE FASTEST-GROWING CAREER FIELDS TODAY. SOME ESTIMATES SUGGEST THAT ONE JOB IN 10 WORLD-WIDE IS RELATED TO THE INDUSTRY. THAT NUMBER WILL CONTINUE TO GROW as more of the 76 million baby boomers head into retirement, giving them more time for travel and leisure.

SUNY Plattsburgh’s hotel, restaurant and tourism management program is up to the challenge, providing a qualified, well-trained workforce. Our HRTM program has produced restaurant owners, managers and marketing directors of some of the largest hotel chains in the world, cruise ship and tour representatives and events planners in New York City and elsewhere.

Although the program itself has only been in existence at SUNY Plattsburgh for 20 years, the hospitality industry can claim even more alumni who earned their degrees from many of our other programs. Our graduates have found success in a wide variety of related careers.

We have alumni in all corners of the world, from David Murphy ’75, a senior vice president with McDonald’s Corporation in Hong Kong, to Seth Salzman ’94, one of the founders of Moe’s Southwest Grill in Atlanta, Ga. The list goes on and is growing. The HRTM program has the largest enrollment of programs in our School of Business and Economics, and now the program is jointly accredited with the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business and the Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration, only the second college in SUNY to receive joint ACPHA accreditation.

When prospective students and their parents visit SUNY Plattsburgh’s state-of-the-art HRTM facilities in Sibley Hall, they’re impressed and often say they can’t believe a college of our size has such offerings. They’re right to feel this way: our program and our facilities are extraordinary. SUNY Plattsburgh is among the handful of top-notch programs in the country. This is not just because of the working kitchen labs and elegant Samuel D’s, which serves as a restaurant and classroom. It is also in large part because of our remarkable faculty, who work well together and complement each others’ strengths. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts because the parts integrate so well.

I’m proud of the HRTM program and the faculty and students who make that corner of Sibley Hall a vibrant, enthusiastic and close-knit community. Our graduates have gone out into the world and have become shining stars in the hospitality industry, and that reflects brightly on Plattsburgh State.
Undergraduate Opportunities Earn SUNY Plattsburgh Students Top Honors

SUNY Plattsburgh undergraduates are learning lessons, winning awards and doing cutting-edge research their peers can only dream about.

Take Elizabeth Lavoie, Melissa Kopp and Nishank Bhalla, for example.

These students have been researching the DNA of ancient Maya skeletons. The skeletons are part of what is likely the world’s largest collection, excavated over the years with government permission by SUNY Distinguished Professor Dr. Mark Cohen.

They work under the supervision of Associate Professor Dr. Nancy Elwess and Adjunct Lecturer Sandra Latourelle to extract DNA. Then, they amplify a portion, so that they can sequence it, using the college’s DNA sequencer. In doing so, they begin to unlock the doors to many mysteries.

This is research that has been done few times before and never by undergraduates.

Lavoie, a sophomore biology major, was awarded second place overall at the 2008 North East Regional Sigma Xi Conference Poster Competition. Before that, Kopp, a new graduate with degrees in chemistry and biology and Bhalla, a sophomore biochemistry major, took top awards at the 2007 Sigma Xi Student Research Conference. Kopp also took a top award at the National Association of Biology Teachers conference.

“The project has been a most amazing experience, in terms of learning so much more and actually discovering something new for the first time,” said Bhalla.

Faculty Members Earn Chancellor’s Awards

Six SUNY Plattsburgh faculty members have been honored with State University of New York Chancellor’s Awards.

“His effectiveness as a teacher and mentor is shown through the number of his students who win awards, secure competitive internships and establish successful and satisfying careers in their field,” said SUNY Plattsburgh President John Ettling.

Dr. Tracie Church Guzzio, an associate professor of English, received the Excellence in Teaching Award.

Guzzio has taught courses covering topics like multiethnic American, African-American and human-rights literature — many of which she herself helped to develop. Students have consistently given Guzzio’s teaching a high rating. They cite her enthusiasm, availability and respect for students.

“Former students who have become teachers write that they attempt to apply in their classrooms and relationships with their students what they learned about teaching from her,” said Ettling.

Dr. Gary M. Kroll, an assistant professor of history, received the Excellence in Faculty Service Award, an honor extended to faculty who have a demonstrated record of sustained superior services.

Ettling noted that Kroll’s record of service “is truly
exceptional for someone who has been at SUNY Plattsburgh for only the last seven years. In all three areas of teaching, scholarship and service, Dr. Kroll has already created an enviable resume.”

The author of the recently published, “America’s Ocean Wilderness: A Cultural History of Twentieth Century Exploration” and the co-author of “Exploration and Science: Social Impact and Interaction,” Kroll is active as a scholar who has played a critical role in developing the current history/social studies program for adolescence education and in environmental activities on campus.

Peter Russom received the Excellence in Teaching Award. This associate professor and art department chair is an accomplished artist. His works have appeared in exhibits in at least a dozen states and Canada, earning him such honors as the E.M. Birch Award.

Russom brings that art to students, helping them discover their own talents. “He works equally effectively with intermediate and advanced students, with students majoring in art and those taking only a few courses and with the naturally talented and those struggling to express themselves,” said Ettling.

Evaluations indicate that students perceive him to be an excellent teacher. These assessments are reinforced by the unusually high number of his students who get accepted into Master of Fine Arts programs and by the success of his students at the Senior Exhibition.

Matthew E. Salvatore received the Excellence in Professional Service Award for SUNY professional service staff who have consistently demonstrated superlative performance within and beyond their position.

Salvatore oversees the Plattsburgh State Fitness Center, with its budget of half a million dollars. He also has helped design the new fitness/wellness leadership program, opening this fall. In addition, he teaches courses in his field and will offer more under the new major.

He has been involved in many committees on campus and volunteers at the Samuel S. Vilas Home, helping senior citizens increase their strength and flexibility.

“Mr. Salvatore has established a reputation on this campus as an active citizen of our community and an extremely competent director of the Fitness Center,” said Ettling.

Ed Brohel Retires after 30 Years of Service to SUNY Plattsburgh

After 30 years and 10,000 pieces of art, Ed Brohel has hung his last painting as director of the Plattsburgh State Art Museum.

The Plattsburgh State icon is retiring at the end of June, and although his voice is softer, his gait a little slower, he is still very much the captain of a ship that navigated a sometimes stormy sea in the quest for art appropriation.

“It’s been enriching being here and being able to do what I liked to do and contribute to the welfare of the college,” Brohel said from his office that looks onto one of his own professional accomplishments, the Nina Winkel Sculpture Court. Those contributions have included steering the overhaul and transformation of the Rockwell Kent Gallery, a world-class repository of many of Kent’s works; the formation of the Winkel court, which is home to more than 50 pieces by the renowned sculptor; and the creation of the Museum Without Walls, which exposes students, faculty, staff and visitors to art throughout campus, both indoors and out as evidenced by the college’s monumental sculpture exhibits.

When Brohel arrived on campus, the college’s collection of art had less than 500 pieces. Today, the collection boasts 10,000 pieces. It was the presence of Kent’s work that propelled the college “into the major league,” Brohel said. “Kent is an artist of such stature, he can’t be ignored. The college has a responsibility to take care of that. The fact that the Kent collection was here is what brought other things to campus. It showed Nina Winkel we could do the job. It showed Regina Slatkin we could do the job.”

It’s also the reason the college is slated to receive 162 Andy Warhol photographs for its
permanent collection as part of the Warhol Photographic Legacy Program.

Brohel looked around his office, surrounded by art and reminders of art. “Some say I should write, and I may some day. I always regretted there wasn’t a book written about Winkel,” he said. “I’ll miss it. It’s what I love doing. But you reach the point where things are becoming repetitive. Maybe something that catches my imagination will come along, and I’ll pick up on that.”

Dr. Jay Stein
Named Provost

Dr. Jay Stein, founding director for the Center for Health and the Built Environment, College of Design, Construction and Planning at the University of Florida, has accepted the position of provost at SUNY Plattsburgh.

“We are incredibly pleased that Jay has agreed to serve as our next provost,” said SUNY Plattsburgh President John Ettling. “He brings a wealth of talent not only in his field of study but most importantly as a leader in academia.”

Stein looks forward to coming to SUNY Plattsburgh.

Six SUNY Students Win Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence

Six SUNY Plattsburgh students have received special recognition from the Chancellor of the State University of New York. Robert Abel, Allison Busby, Melissa Kopp, Amber Lachapelle, Christopher Morales, and Zachary Warner have been named recipients of the Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence. These awards recognize academic excellence, contributions to the greater campus community and outstanding achievement.

Abel, from Brewster, N.Y., just graduated with a bachelor’s in anthropology and a minor in French. He belonged to two honor societies and has won many awards and scholarships, including a Killam Fellowship and a Redcay Outstanding Senior Award.

Busby, from New Paltz, N.Y., now has a bachelor’s in nutrition. She ran cross-country and track for SUNY Plattsburgh and considers her cross country team’s second place performance at nationals this past fall to be her greatest achievement.

Kopp, from Rouses Point, just earned her bachelor’s degrees in biology and chemistry. Recently named to Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, she says her highest achievement is being recognized by Sigma Xi: The Scientific Research Honors Society and by the National Association for Biology Teachers for her superior poster presentations of her scientific research.

Lachapelle, from Plainville, Conn., just received her bachelor’s in biochemistry with a minor in math. She has been a member of several honor societies including Sigma Xi, Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Eta Sigma, and the Society for Leadership and Success.

Morales, from Altona, N.Y., just earned degrees in biochemistry and computer science. He considers receiving the Excellence in Biology Education Award to be one of his most prized achievements before the Chancellor’s Award because he believes in the power of teaching.

Warner from Averill Park, N.Y., also just graduated after going through the combined bachelor and master’s degree program, earning degrees in mathematics and adolescence education. He has won many scholarships and awards, including the Phi Eta Sigma National Leadership Award and the National Award of Accomplishment from the Society of Success.
THE PRESIDENT OF THE Orlando Culinary Institute embraces the idea that to succeed in the hospitality industry, you have to like people. Plain and simple.

“If you don’t like people, you don’t belong in this industry because it’s an industry based on making people happy,” said Joe Hardiman ’85, whose experience as a business and accounting major at SUNY Plattsburgh helped form his hospitable perspective. “I’m not just talking about the public; I’m also talking about those people you work with. Whether you’re working in restaurants or hotels, you’re going to spend a lot of time with them. It’s all about teamwork. You need to like people, embrace the differences and be prepared to celebrate Christmas in July because you’ll be working when other people are relaxing.”

Hardiman has a unique take on hospitality, having worked in various aspects since earning an associate’s degree from Paul Smith’s College in the early 1970s. He worked for the Disney organization in Florida before returning to the North Country to teach in the Paul Smith’s hotel and restaurant management program. “At that time, I immediately enrolled in Plattsburgh State to finish a bachelor’s degree in business,” Hardiman said. All the while he was attending classes at Plattsburgh, commuting from Saranac Lake, N.Y., he was honing his craft in the industry, eventually taking over as general manager of the Hotel Saranac. That led to another stint with Disney in Florida, working in various capacities in their parks and resorts.

The Orlando Culinary Academy, Le Cordon Bleu Programs, came calling and Hardiman “fell in love it,” he said of the 800-student academy. “Culinary arts is about the food, but it’s also about the people. We encourage our students to go out and talk about the food, to learn how to interact with the public. No longer is the
PLEASE

by Gerianne Wright

Seth Salzman ’94 would agree. The senior vice president of corporate operations for Stevi B’s Pizza in Atlanta, Ga., said he was drawn to the business “because of my love for food and taking care of people. Food plays such an important role in my life and means so much to so many others, it was just the right fit for me. I really enjoy making people feel good and nothing does that as well as a great meal and great service.”

Salzman said he chose Plattsburgh State because of its hotel and restaurant management program.

“I knew I wanted to go to a SUNY school, and Plattsburgh had one of the few four-year hotel.restaurant management programs,” he said. Tourism was added to the program’s title and scope in 1996.

Before joining Stevi B’s, Salzman was senior vice president for operations for Moe’s Southwest Grill, a chain of more than 350 restaurants that he helped create from the ground up. He and his colleagues created other concepts such as Boneheads, The Flying Biscuit Café and Monkey Joe’s, under the parent company, Raving Brands. Salzman left Raving Brands in March 2008 as an employee but maintained his position as a shareholder when he joined Stevi B’s.

“I took over the corporate operations as an equity partner (of Stevi B’s), a small 29-unit pizza buffet chain,” Salzman said. The restaurant was sold to a private equity group “that brought me on to help fine tune and ramp it up for growth.”

Salzman’s business acumen fits well with the program’s overall design, said David Hensarling, lecturer in the HRTM program.

The first thing we tell prospective students and their parents is that ours is a clearly defined program in the School of Business and Economics. The entire program is management based. We train students to be prepared to go into management positions in traditional hospitality fields – hotels, restaurants, travel – we’re very different from other schools that offer hotel, restaurant and tourism management.”

“I definitely feel the program helped me in my understanding of the business side,” Salzman said. “I certainly was able to recognize during my time at Plattsburgh that I made the right choice, both in a school that fit me well – not too big or too small – and in the decision to move forward in the restaurant business.”

Disney Internship a Stepping Stone

Kate Deyermond, who knew at 11 years old she was going to go into the business of hospitality, found Plattsburgh the right fit as well.

The other schools … just did not seem like a good match,” she said. The 2003 graduate of the HRTM program said she immediately felt at home at Plattsburgh State. A native of the Long Island town of Sag Harbor, Deyermond said she remembers standing on the 10th floor of the Kehoe Administration Building where the admissions office is, taking in the vista of the North Country, with the Adirondacks to the south and west, Lake Champlain and the Green Mountains of Vermont to the east.

“I told my dad this is where I am going to go to college,” she said. Growing up in a town that had a population of 2,000 in the winter and 20,000 in the
Kate Deyermond ‘03 always knew she wanted to go into the hospitality business. She is now director of the Fisher House at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

summer, she lived tourism firsthand. That sparked her interest. As a senior at Plattsburgh, she attended a hotel show in New York City where she discovered the U.S. Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation division was recruiting students to do a one-year internship with the promise of a full-time position to follow, but that position wouldn’t be available until several months after her May graduation.

To fill the lag time, she took an internship with the Walt Disney organization in Florida before starting her internship with the Army at its Shades of Green Resort at Walt Disney World, an armed forces recreation resort for service members and their families.

After learning the ropes from cleaning rooms to general management, Deyermond accepted the position of general manager of the Army’s officer’s club at the National Training Center in California. A longing to get back into the lodging business and a job as director of the Fisher House at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., brought Deyermond back east.

Think Ronald McDonald House meets the U.S. Army: the Fisher House is home to the families of soldiers being treated at Walter Reed.

“A small operation, I handle every aspect of it,” Deyermond said. “I work closely with social workers at the hospital to see which family needs the Fisher House environment the most. I manage our volunteer program as well as all the programs for the families and children who are staying at the house.”

A Solid Foundation

Deyermond credited her experience at Plattsburgh State for putting her “on the right path to getting a great job,” she said. “(It) helped me be successful in all of the positions that I have worked in.”

Keith Biumi ‘89 concurred.

“(Plattsburgh State) laid a solid foundation and gave me the confidence I needed to get a job and start a career,” said the regional vice president of development and franchising the upscale brands of Intercontinental Hotels in Atlanta, Ga. “I grew up in Westchester (N.Y.) I knew I needed to attend a state school as the cost of attending was my responsibility.”

Affordability and the enrollment of several friends aside, Biumi said one of the compelling factors of choosing Plattsburgh State was its size.

“The size of the student body was what I preferred (to that of) larger schools,” he said. “The closeness I felt at Plattsburgh was because the class size was small and would allow you to foster a relationship with faculty.”

A Host of Alumni in Hospitality

Although the hotel, restaurant and tourism management program has produced hundreds of graduates all across the hospitality spectrum since its inception two decades ago,
hundreds more in the industry found their way there by a different path. Many are graduates of other programs in the School of Business and Economics. Some, like Biumi, who majored in psychology, earned their degrees in other programs at the college. Michael Paetow ’95 parlayed his degree in business management into a successful career with the sandwich giant, Quiznos, where he is now director of international development. His job takes him around the world tracking new store openings, training employees and affirming their compliance with corporate standards.

“I really enjoyed my studies at Plattsburgh,” Paetow said. “Just prior to graduating I considered taking a minor in international studies, but I was ready to tackle the real world. Little did I know that I would be given the opportunity to work in the hospitality field with a great company and that I’d be working (for Quiznos) internationally.”

Geography Comes in Handy
David Murphy ’75 has a degree in geography. That might seem a far reach for the hospitality industry until you realize the senior vice president chief restaurant support officer for McDonald’s lives in Hong Kong and is responsible for the development and deployment of systems used for operations, training, technology, supply chain, human relations and menu management for McDonald’s in 37 countries and territories that stretch from Japan to Australia, New Zealand, across South Africa, up to Turkey and back to Japan.

“I am also on the board of directors for McDonald’s Japan, and I am a member of the executive leadership team of APMEA (Asia, Pacific, Middle East and Africa), which drives the development of the strategic plan for APMEA,” he said.

Murphy ended up working for McDonald’s as a crew person after graduating from Plattsburgh State.

“I was looking for a job in cartography and working at McDonald’s at night,” he said. “As time went on, I really enjoyed the personal interaction with customers and crew. I worked my way up to be a restaurant manager and then through all the staff positions. I was the general manager vice president for the Philadelphia region working with about 600 restaurants before I went to Asia.”

With his position in Hong Kong, Murphy said his experience at Plattsburgh helped him in his life and career now more than ever.

“My geography is a little rusty, but I spent my time at Plattsburgh learning about other cultures and the value they add,” he said. “As I approached my role in APMEA, I reflected back on my days in Plattsburgh and the discussions around how cultures evolve and grow. The exciting news is I now get to see and experience the many things I read about at Plattsburgh.”

Hard Work Part of the Job
His experiences in the industry also prepared him for hard work, he said.

“Working for McDonald’s is all about working with people to improve execution and drive results,” Murphy said. “It is a high-energy, challenging and people-oriented business. The hospitality industry is hard work and not for everyone.”

“You’ve got to be prepared to work hard,” the Culinary Academy’s Joe Hardiman said. “There’s nothing as exhilarating as a busy restaurant or a busy hotel. You have to have that kind of fire in your soul. When someone wants to take a vacation, there’s someone in this industry on the other side of the wall making sure they enjoy it. They like the thrill of satisfying the public.”
he SUNY Plattsburgh hotel, restaurant and tourism management program was a dream come true for Michelle Mora.

“I didn’t know Plattsburgh had an HRTM program, so I came in as a management major with hopes of getting into the hospitality industry,” the junior from Schenectady, N.Y., said. “I quickly switched (to HRTM) when I found that my dream career was offered as a major.”

In the 20 years since it first came on the scene as hotel and restaurant management in the now-defunct Center for Human Resources, the HRTM program has seen itself reinvented and reinvigorated. In 1996, the major shifted focus, changed its name and moved to the School of Business and Economics where it took a decidedly different tack, emphasizing the business of hospitality.

“When I first started teaching in the program, we had 130 students,” said Bob Rolfs, lecturer in HRTM. “The program was scattered; there was no real vision. Over the course of a year and a half, I worked with Marilyn Chase and Norm Howard, and we created a strategic plan that looked at where we thought the program needed to go, one that would be like none other out there. Our biggest hindrance was we lacked a facility.”

When SUNY announced it had funding for building renovations in the mid-1990s, “everybody on campus was rushing for that money,” Rolfs said. “We were the only program on campus that had a strategic plan in place at the time, and they gave it to us. We lucked out because we had a viable design and operational plan ready to go. We also made the case very well that the hotel, restaurant and tourism management program would go nowhere without adequate facilities.”

The plan called for a complete overhaul of the southwestern corner of
Sibley Hall, which at the time housed the Empire State College offices and a cafeteria, part stage, part commercial kitchen that had been used when Sibley Hall was the Campus School in the 1960s. It was also used by Rolfs’ quantity foods class but the room itself had no class.

“We would hold dinners there, and the students spent more time trying to dress up the cafetorium,” he said.

The new facility would bring the program together, giving a central location for classrooms, kitchen laboratories, a conference room, offices for faculty and support staff and the piece de resistance, a top-notch restaurant and state-of-the-art kitchen that serves not only elegant meals but as a classroom as well.
Plans were drawn. Construction began. And the program officially moved in in 2004.

“It was brand-spanking new, and it was beautiful,” Rolfs said. “All of us realized as soon as we moved in that we noticed a sense of pride, an increased sense of professionalism and of camaraderie.”

“Now, we’re pushing 250 students,” said David Hensarling, lecturer in the program. “We are the largest single department in the School of Business and Economics today. We’re really on the cutting edge of what can be done in HRTM.”

“The entire country is a service culture,” Rolfs said. “Lodging, food and beverage, tourism – there are a lot of untrained, unskilled workers out there, and the industry is looking for trained people to work with them.”

“We’re training students for entry-level management positions in the traditional hospitality fields – in hotels, restaurants, cruise ships and other travel areas. It’s very different from other hotel and restaurant programs out there,” said Hensarling.

In addition, students who graduate with a degree in hotel, restaurant and tourism management

“I worked closely with Kim Emery in opening Samuel D’s Starbuck kiosk. I really enjoyed my year working with the students. I was responsible for preparing the business plan, staff scheduling and auditing. I performed barista training to prepare signature Starbucks’s drink recipes, increased marketing and sales and effectively managed a staff of 10 students.”

—Stephanie Brill ’04 G’05

Stephanie Brill ’04 G’05 is social and conference services manager at The Langham Hotel in Boston, Mass.

Nicholas Titley (below) serves coffee at the Starbucks café in Sibley, which Brill helped establish during her time at Plattsburgh.
from SUNY Plattsburgh are prepared for careers with resorts, catering, food service, tour companies, leisure and recreation venues, travel agencies, convention and events planning, and theme parks such as Walt Disney World and Six Flags properties.

The program combines liberal arts with professional studies, giving students tools for making sound professional decisions. One of the prerequisites for graduation that makes the SUNY Plattsburgh HRTM program distinctive is the work requirement. Students must work a minimum of 800 hours in the hospitality field prior to graduation.

“The field requirement gives students a leg up on the competition before they even graduate,” said Kim Emery ’00 G’06, chef-instructor and director of the facility in Sibley Hall. “The industry is highly competitive, and employers are not only looking at education but also at work experience. Many of our students go right into management positions because of the experience they had working before they graduated.”

The 800 hours can be earned throughout their four years at Plattsburgh State, either during summer months or during the academic year. Students are encouraged not to spend all 800 hours with the same company unless they change positions or move up the ladder, Emery said.

But perhaps what makes Plattsburgh State’s program stand head and shoulders above many of its contemporaries is the physical space and what students do there. Students have classroom time in the lecture halls and then take what they learn into the kitchen laboratory. They learn what goes into restaurant and kitchen management at Samuel D’s and how to manage a thriving coffee business in the front of the house, serving Starbucks coffee, muffins and other to-go breakfast foods all the while earning college credits for their hands-on work.

**While Faculty Line Up During the Morning for Their Starbucks,** students behind the counter are learning sales, marketing and daily operation of a business. They’re handling inventory and finances and learning how to deal with customers. They’re not playing store; they’re running one. It’s also helping them meet some of the 800-hour work requirement.

“I get emails from alumni who say all the time how much the café or dinner class really helped them,” Emery said. “Students have to put everything they learn into practice here. There’s no just learning by the book. They jump in and manage the front and the back of the house, thinking about and applying what they learn each day. They see the results immediately.”

“The Sibley Hall facility opened the year after I graduated from the program, (but) since I was going to be around the Continued on Page 15
Samuel D’s
A CLASSROOM SO REAL YOU CAN TASTE IT

TUCKED IN THE CORNER OF SIBLEY HALL ON THE PLATTSBURGH STATE CAMPUS IS A LIVELY, THRIVING LABORATORY.

Students in this lab don’t mix compounds or examine specimens under a microscope, and they’re more likely to say, “Can I take your order now?” than “Eureka! The cells have divided.” This lab is Samuel D’s Restaurant and coffee shop for students in the college’s hotel, restaurant and tourism management program, part of the School of Business and Economics.

The HRTM program in Sibley has its lecture rooms with a faculty work station and an adjoining test kitchen where students take what they learn in the lecture and put it into practice. But what sets this program apart is the restaurant, its adjoining industrial kitchen and the coffee counter, all part of a $3.5 million renovation that opened in 2004. The department space also includes a conference room, offices for the program’s faculty and a lounge for HRTM students.

At Samuel D’s, students get hands-on experience in the trade, whether it’s working the “back of the house” in the kitchen, preparing meals to be served out in the “front of the house” or waiting and clearing tables, greeting customers or refilling water glasses. Students who earn their degree in HRTM leave with a real-world understanding of all aspects of the business.

Before they don a waiter’s garb for Samuel D’s, students have learned techniques and theories in their food-service management class. Faculty teach at a kitchen work station in the tiered-seating lecture hall. Next door, students work at several restaurant-grade stoves and stations, putting into practice what they learned in class. Once they’ve completed this course, they move on to the restaurant class where students are responsible for doing everything, from busing tables to serving as prep cooks. Students rotate positions and decide who is in charge of what.

“Are they chefs when they leave here? No. We’re not training our students to be chefs,” said Kim Emery ‘00 G’06, the instructor in charge of the facility. A chef in her own right and graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, Emery knows what she’s talking about. “It’s something we have to get across to prospective students and their parents when they see the facility because students do learn their way about the kitchen.

“We’re preparing managers – people who can walk into a business and know the jobs of the people working for them. When they’re managing a banquet facility or hotel, they’ll be able to talk about food intelligently. If they’re looking to hire a chef, they’ll know what they should be looking for. They will know when something isn’t working or what equipment to buy or how to run the back and the front of the house.”

At Samuel D’s, the “front” of the house is a stylized granite coffee counter, with a recessed-lighting and dark-wood ambiance that makes patrons forget they’re entering a college class where students serve Starbucks coffee for credit. Beyond the take-out café is Samuel D’s Restaurant, simply set for the morning coffee patrons but which is transformed into an elegant dining room replete with linen table cloths, cloth napkins and flowers for dinners served Thursday evenings.

A student maître d’ seats patrons and leaves them with leather-bound menus, the contents of which are decided upon by the students themselves. Student servers pour water, take drink and dinner orders from an offering of several entrees – often including chicken, beef and pasta choices. All meals come with salad and warm, homemade bread. Patrons, many of whom are from the community at large, vie for reservations each week; seatings are always booked to capacity.

For many of the students, working at Samuel D’s as part of a classroom experience is the first time they’ve ever acted the part of waiter or waitress. John Parmelee, lecturer in the program, serves as front-of-the-house manager, helping students with orders, directing those who need it, even rolling up his shirt sleeves to help bus tables when needed.

“It’s all part of the whole experience,” said Emery, who manages the “back” of the house during Thursday dinners. “Students are learning as they are doing.”

“The ‘back’ of the house is a state-of-the-art industrial kitchen where students prepare the meal they’ve decided upon. Donned in chef uniforms – a requirement for both the restaurant class and food service management class – students chop, sauté and grill their way through the evening. Because it is not a restaurant in the true sense of the word, food that isn’t used that evening cannot be stored for use the next day. Here, there is no next day, only the next Thursday when they start anew, so students have to plan accordingly.

“Because they can’t save the food for use the next day like restaurants do, students have to be able to judge quantities needed, budgets, which entrees may be more popular choices,” Emery said. And if they do run out of the prime rib, servers have to be able to tell patrons they are out of that menu item, just like servers in the real world have to do.

Emery said when she gives prospective students and their parents tours of the facility in Sibley Hall, she can see the excitement and awe in their eyes.

“It’s an impressive facility,” she said. “We work hard to make it that way.”
Continued from Page 13

year it opened while attending grad school, I was asked to
join the HRTM faculty as a part-time adjunct faculty
member,” said Stephanie Brill ’04 G’05, social and
conference services manager at The Langham Hotel in
Boston, Mass. “I worked closely with Kim Emery in opening
Samuel D’s Starbuck kiosk. I really enjoyed my year working
with the students. I was responsible for preparing the
business plan, staff scheduling and auditing. I performed
barista training to prepare signature Starbuck’s drink recipes,
increased marketing and sales and effectively managed a staff
of 10 students.”

That’s an aspect of the program that Highland, N.Y.,
sophomore Jessica Stokes appreciates.

“The thing I like most about the program is that much of
it is hands-on learning,” Stokes said. She cites the food
service operations management class she recently completed.

“This class was amazing. Each week, we would go to class
with a recipe that we had been given a week in advance to
look over the necessary steps, and we would make whichever
dish was assigned. After completing this course, I realized it
helped me not only in the culinary aspect, but I also learned
that teamwork and leadership is essential to complete a task
such as that.”

IN A BUSINESS WHOSE LONGSTANDING CULTURE IS
CREATING FUN FOR OTHER PEOPLE, HRTM majors find
their program is up to the challenge.

“Every class is fun,” said Mora. “People who work in
hospitality know how to engage others in conversation, and
you can definitely feel that in the classroom. I feel as though
everyone in the HRTM department is naturally friendly and
captivating so you make friends easily and learn from each
other. I love the faculty. In this program, your adviser not
only knows your name but knows your personality.”

Katie Currier, a senior from Plattsburgh, said she found the
program by chance, but her decision to stay was no accident.

“I started working at Touraid Travel (in Plattsburgh), loved
it and met some girls there who were in the program,”
Currier said. “I was graduating from Clinton Community
College that spring and hadn’t declared a major at
Plattsburgh State, and so it all fell together. I couldn’t be
happier. I enjoy every aspect of the program. The classes are
unique, and since I have an avid interest in the subject
matter, they’re also a lot of fun. I enjoy the hands-on learning
the most. Not just in the classroom, either. They’ve put
everything you need in the curriculum, including an automatic
business minor, so it’s very comprehensive.”

Larissa Guldenstern, a junior from Catskill, N.Y., chose
Plattsburgh State over several other colleges she looked at
because of the program and faculty. Echoing her classmates’
assessment of the program, Guldenstern said she hopes to
parlay her experiences into a front desk management or
event-planning position at a hotel in Las Vegas or California.

“The good thing about this major is that I have many
different options to pick from, and there are nice hotels
everywhere,” Guldenstern said. “I can pretty much choose
where I want to live.”

Hensarling said that’s at the heart of the hotel, restaurant
and tourism management program at Plattsburgh State.

“The hospitality industry is a growth industry, not just in
the United States but globally. By the time the Chinese host
the Summer Olympics in August, the largest economy in the
world will be the hospitality industry. We’re ahead of the
curve,” he said.
Alumni Demonstrate the Meaning of ‘Plattburgh Spirit’

ROSE ANDERSON ’95, DIRECTOR FOR THE OFFICE OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS AT SUNY PLATTSBURGH, SPEAKS OFTEN ABOUT “THE PLATTSBURGH SPIRIT,” an intangible energy that is generated by alumni and friends of the college.

While the Plattburgh spirit is most times considered intangible, data gathered about alumni support of SUNY Plattsburgh prove that the Plattburgh spirit can, in fact, be demonstrated and made tangible.

The results for the most recent fiscal year are still being tabulated, but trends can be seen from the results over the last few years. SUNY Plattsburgh alumni have supported the college at almost twice the rate of other public colleges in the nation.

In 2005, 10.6 percent of SUNY Plattsburgh alumni made a gift to the college compared to 9.6 percent at other SUNY comprehensive schools and 6.8 percent at other public institutions across the country. In 2006, the number of alumni who supported SUNY Plattsburgh jumped to 11.2 percent while support at other similar SUNY schools was flat and the national average dropped.

However, one challenge facing the college’s fundraising efforts is the fact the average gift from SUNY Plattsburgh graduates is lower compared to most of its peers within SUNY. The overall results show that out of the 13 SUNY comprehensive schools, Plattsburgh State ranks 8th in total charitable gifts received.

“While we take pride in the high rate of support, we know we have much work to do in educating our alumni about the need to increase their level of support,” said Brendan C. Kinney, associate vice president for institutional advancement. “But given the nature of our alumni and their loyalty to their alma mater, we know we can and will do better.”

Grateful Grad Establishes Fund to Help Disadvantaged Students

“Many students just want you to take a chance on them,” Clute says. “Most scholarships are based on merit, but what about students who may not appear to have what it takes to be admitted to college? What about students who may not seem to be college material? How many lives could have been transformed if students were just given a chance?”

Despite a difficult upbringing, Clute decided not to be a victim of circumstance. Instead, she persevered with passion. A lifelong resident of Plattsburgh, Clute received a grant from the Educational Opportunity Program, designed to help economically disadvantaged students. After graduation, Clute started work as an insurance broker.

In 1984, she formed her own company and went back to college to become a certified financial planner. Four years after receiving her degree, Clute was the head of a company bearing her name. Today, she manages $110 million in assets and offers securities through LPL Financial, member FINRA/SIPC, with clients as far away as California.

She looks back at her college experience as a formative period, learning from her fellow students as well as faculty. Grateful for the support that made her education possible, Clute recently established an endowed fund to help other women follow in her footsteps.

“Women have special challenges,” she said. “They don’t always have the best grades due to economic and personal circumstances but want an opportunity to better themselves. You know, not all ‘A’ students make the best entrepreneurs,” she said.

SUNY Plattsburgh continues to inspire Clute. In 2004, she audited a class with Dr. James Csipak, an associate professor in the School of Business and Economics.

“I’ve never been so inspired,” she said. That experience led her to expand her company into Burlington, Vt., in 2005.

“Heidi’s life is an example for students who face tough odds,” said Anne Hansen, vice president for institutional advancement. “Sometimes all they need is a helping hand, and we are most grateful that Heidi is providing that helping hand, today and for the generations to come.”

Heidi Clute ‘80

LACKING A CLEAR IDEA FOR A CAREER PATH AND WITHOUT THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO PAY FOR COLLEGE ON HER OWN, a young Heidi Clute was looking for a school that would take a chance on her. SUNY Plattsburgh rolled the dice, and the result has paid off in spades for both Clute and the college that she loves.
IN THE BOOK, “THE COMPLEAT ANGLER,” JOHN BUCHAN WRITES, “THE CHARM OF FISHING IS THAT IT IS THE PURSUIT OF WHAT IS ELUSIVE but attainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope.”

Rick Stiggins ’68, an avid fly fisherman, spends many hours enjoying the expectancy of hope.

But in his professional life, as founder and director of the ETS Assessment Training Institute in Portland, Ore., Stiggins also helps teachers and their students explore their hopes and dreams by providing opportunities for learning success.

“Our main goal is the support of teachers,” Stiggins says of his work at ATI, which was purchased by Educational Testing Service in 2006. “But more importantly, we reaffirm the importance of good quality teaching by modeling it in everything we do.”

Fishing for Hope: Alumni Establishes Fund to Assist Future Educators

HOMECOMING IS A TIME FOR ALUMNI TO RETURN TO CAMPUS TO VISIT WITH FRIENDS AND CLASSMATES AND RECONNECT WITH THEIR ALMA MATER.

The weekend is also a time when alumni can learn firsthand about the latest developments at the college.

This year, the weekend will include the unveiling of a critical initiative for the college: “Bright with Promise,” the first comprehensive campaign in the history of SUNY Plattsburgh with a goal of $15 million to be raised by 2011.

Unlike typical fund-raising campaigns, “Bright with Promise” goes beyond bricks and mortar; the primary focus of the effort is to raise funds for permanent endowed scholarships and other forms of student aid.

“SUNY Plattsburgh is recognized by Kiplinger’s as a ‘best value,’” said Daniel Burke ’74, president of the Plattsburgh College Foundation. “The efforts of this campaign will help ensure that the cost to attend the college will remain affordable for deserving students and their families for years to come.”

Efforts around the campaign have been underway for a number of years and to date, more than $9 million has been raised.

Anne Hansen, executive director of the Plattsburgh College Foundation and vice president for institutional advancement, is pleased with the progress so far.

“We have made great headway toward our overall goal. With 40 percent of our goal remaining, we are now ready to take the effort public and are asking everyone to help us cross the finish line. We are reaching out to all of our alumni and friends as well as our faculty, staff and parents. This is an incredibly important effort, and our success will help raise SUNY Plattsburgh to new heights.”

The name of the “Bright with Promise” campaign was inspired by a book written by college historian, Dr. Douglas Skopp, in 1989. In it he captures the first 100 years of history at SUNY Plattsburgh.

“Over the past five years, we have built a tremendous amount of positive momentum,” said SUNY Plattsburgh President John Ettling. “Our future is bright: interest in the college is at an all-time high, we are meeting or exceeding all of our goals with regard to our academic plan, enrollment, improvements to facilities and more. There is an energy on campus that is unmistakable, and it will be a treat for alumni to see and feel it for themselves during Homecoming weekend.”

Throughout the course of Homecoming weekend, Oct. 17-19, attendees will have opportunities to learn more details and to help celebrate the launch of this historic effort. To learn more about the weekend and to register, visit www.plattsburgh.edu/alumni.
Cardinals Finish Fourth in SUNY Cup

PLATTSBURGH STATE ATHLETICS HAS FINISHED IN FOURTH PLACE IN THE 2008 STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK ATHLETIC CONFERENCE COMMISSIONER’S CUP. This marks Plattsburgh’s best showing in two years.

The Cardinals tallied 116-3/4 total points for an aggregate score of 7.30, trailing only Cortland (9.64), Geneseo (8.43) and Brockport (7.91).

In addition to several individual championships throughout the 2007-08 campaign, Plattsburgh took home team titles in men’s basketball (regular-season and tournament), men’s hockey (regular-season and tournament) and softball (regular-season). Men’s soccer was the conference tournament runner-up, and baseball, softball and women’s soccer all went to the SUNYAC semifinals. Men’s tennis had its best season in six years, ending up fourth and just four points out of third. Women’s cross country — despite missing two starters — still managed a top-three finish in the conference championships.

And although men’s lacrosse lost on a tie-breaker to qualify for the SUNYAC tournament, the team set a school record for the most conference victories and had an above-.500 league mark (4-3) for the first time ever.

Established for the 1996-97 academic year to recognize the conference’s top overall athletics program, the 11-school SUNYAC Commissioner’s Cup uses an 11-point system that is determined by the 20 fall, winter and spring sports offerings. The first-place team gets 11 points, second gets 10 and so on. A team’s regular-season finish is added to its postseason showing and then divided by two for its final point total for that sport. The total number of points that a school accumulates is divided by the number of conference sports it has. The school total determines the overall winner at the end of the academic year.

Blanchard Wins Cardinals’ Female Athlete of the Year

CENTER DANIELLE BLANCHARD OF NEWMARKET, ONTARIO, IS THE PLATTSBURGH STATE 2008 WOMEN’S ATHLETE OF THE YEAR in balloting by coaches and administrative staff from the Department of Sport and Wellness. She is the first back-to-back winner of the award and joins soccer’s Gena Rosenbaum, who won in 2003 and 2005, as the only two-time honorees on the women’s side since 1983.

Blanchard, the only three-time All-America choice in the program’s history, led Plattsburgh State to its second consecutive NCAA Division III championship in women’s hockey last March. Junior Blanchard, a team co-captain for the past two years, won the Laura Hurd National Player of the Year Award after scoring a career-high 28 goals and leading the team with 48 points. She also was named the Eastern College Athletic Conference Player of the Year as a first-team member. She already ranks as one of the Cardinals’ top all-time scorers: third with 73 goals, fourth with 67 assists and third with 140 points — in 86 career games.
Kevin Houle Helps Guide U.S. Women’s Team to Championship

KEVIN HOULE, HEAD COACH OF THE NCAA CHAMPION CARDINAL WOMEN’S HOCKEY TEAM, was an assistant coach for the award-winning U.S. women’s hockey national team.

Under his leadership, the national team captured the gold medal with a 4-3 win over Canada at the 2008 International Ice Hockey Federation World Women’s Championship in China in April.

Team USA finished the tournament with a 4-0-1-0 record and ended with back-to-back victories over top-seeded Canada for its second gold medal in the last three world championships. Houle is a three-time national coach of the year and has led the Cardinals to the last two NCAA women’s hockey championships.

Williams is Voted Plattsburgh’s Top Male Athlete for 2007-08

SENIOR GUARD ANTHONY WILLIAMS IS THE PLATTSBURGH STATE 2008 MEN’S ATHLETE OF THE YEAR in balloting by coaches and administrative staff from the Department of Sport and Wellness. He joins soccer’s Jason Sousa, who won 2005 and 2006 honors, and hockey’s Steve Moffat, 1997 and 1998, as the only back-to-back male winners of the award presented each year since 1983.

Williams, the program’s only two-year All-America athlete, spurred the men’s basketball team to a third straight State University of New York Athletic Conference championship and an NCAA Division III Sweet 16 appearance in the Cardinals’ third national tournament trip in a row.

Williams, a history major from Brooklyn, N.Y., was a consensus All-America selection by four different organizations and finalist for the Josten’s Player of the Year and the V-Foundation Jim Valano Comeback Person of the Year. He was also named the player of the year in the east region by D3hoops.com, National Association of Basketball Coaches and Eastern College Athletic Conference Upstate, as well as being the SUNYAC player of the year. Williams set several school records in 2008, including 1,734 career points and 727 points in a season.

Get the latest Cardinal Sports news at www.plattsburgh.edu/athletics
Communications faculty and alumni gathered together at a reception in Albany. Front row: Brian Colton ‘93, Derek Blakeman ‘93 and Sam Goldstein ’96. Back row: Chris Rooney ’94, Sonja Stark ’93, Peter Ensel ’80, Randi (Ferst) Colton ’95, Joseph Walsh ’96 and Dr. Jin Kim.

Alumni Reunion Events Across the Country

Sorority sisters Adele (Martin) Bongiovanni ’66 and Lauren (Klaxton) Whitehouse ’66 were reunited at a SUNY Plattsburgh alumni reception at The Villages in Florida where they joined other alumni for lunch at Laurel Manor.

Dr. John Ettling, Lisa Lewis, T.J. Mullin ’93 and Mary Mullin visit at the Vox Populi reception in Boston, Mass., hosted by owner Joseph Quattrochi ’77.

Judy Duken ’59, Gil Duken ’56 and Gerald Carozza pose in front of a SUNY Plattsburgh banner. The Dukens hosted a cocktail reception for alums and friends of the college at their home in Naples, Fla., this spring.

Rose G. Anderson, executive director of the Plattsburgh Alumni Association, presents Jon Bell ’77 with a gift for hosting an alumni event at Indian River Community College in Fort Pierce, Fla. The event included a tour of the planetarium he oversees.

Dr. Clayton Ajello ’72 (not pictured) hosted a reception for Washington, D.C., area alumni and friends.
Alums Play Key Role in GospelFest ’08

“When alumni came to GospelFest ’08, their bodies took up two rows of E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium. Their spirits, however, filled the place.

They sang. They danced. They clapped. Some directed the Gospel Choir. Some sang in the alumni choir. A few – Etsuko Rucker ’05 and Samy Joseph ’06 – even taught the procession’s choreography. And in the end, many cried.

“They definitely made it more spiritual,” said Director Dr. Dexter Criss, who is an associate professor of chemistry by day.

This swell of alumni involvement all started when Michelle Noble-Coursey ’94 and Colleen Meredith ’93 came to Homecoming ’07 and noticed the choir on the agenda. Little did they know that this was the same group that was founded in 1991 with five or six faithful members.

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Doug Sloan honored with Distinguished Alumnus Award

Dr. David Mowry, SUNY distinguished teaching professor of philosophy and director of the Honors Program, poses with Douglas Sloan ’91 before this spring’s commencement ceremonies. Sloan was awarded the 2008 Distinguished Alumnus Award at the ceremony. Among other achievements, Sloan was honored for having been the youngest Alumni Association president in the history of the college. He and his wife, Jennifer, have also financially supported international growth and development opportunities for students through the Honors Program.
On behalf of the Plattsburgh Alumni Association, I am pleased to share our vision — to engage and inspire alumni to reconnect with the college and its students. In doing so, alumni forge bonds and inspire students to reach new heights.

Pursuing this vision, the alumni team and Office of Institutional Advancement have developed new and exciting programs. We established a Student/Alumni Center for Professional Development, providing a centralized location for student programs like our Student Ambassador Program and Cardinal Connections, our volunteer network of approximately 900 alumni advising both students and fellow alums.

We have also sponsored regional alumni receptions, the Capital District Alumni Club, Homecoming, the Alumni Awards Program and more.

In the past, a number of affinity partnerships were developed for alumni, which, in turn, provided revenue to our programs. In 2007-2008, however, we decided to endorse a fee to support student/alumni programs. The end result, we hoped, would be a more connected college. To date, we are thrilled with the results.

In the coming year, we plan to enhance our electronic communications and provide an online community for alumni, so stay tuned.

There are many avenues to assist our Alumni Association and college. You may participate on a committee, host and/or sponsor an event, volunteer for Cardinal Connections, recommend a student and contribute to the Plattsburgh Fund. Your time, talents and treasures are sincerely appreciated.

Though it may have been five or 50 years since you’ve been on campus, there are endless ways you can help keep the Plattsburgh Spirit alive!

Doug McManus ’89, President
PLATTSBURGH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Consequently, when they learned that there were now nearly 60 vocalists and 10 instrumentalists in the choir, it took their breath away.

“It was amazing,” said Noble-Coursey. “I was moved to tears.”

The two decided to meet up with the choir’s first advisor Janet Sanders at GospelFest, and when the guest choir scheduled to perform at GospelFest cancelled, Criss and Sally Urban, choir advisor and a senior career counselor, decided to turn the concert into an all-out alumni event.

They emailed lyrics and music to alumni. Alumni would have to rehearse alone until the eve of concert. There would only be two group rehearsals.

“It’s nothing new,” said Joseph, who joined the alumni choir, sang a solo in one number, directed another and won the choir’s Alumni Award. Joseph said that they often had to learn a new song in a week.

Urban was also not worried about the lack of rehearsal time.

“The alumni are ‘pros’ having sung in so many different places and situations,” she said.

Their performance was so successful that Urban and Criss now want to schedule an alumni concert once every five years.

According to Criss, the alumni taught members “that life after Plattsburgh doesn’t have to end — that they can still have a spirit for the choir and a spirit for the college.”

Urban wants to extend a hand to alumni all over the world to attend their concerts. The group has performed in places like Boston, Chicago and even Tokyo. This year, it is hoping to travel to the Caribbean Islands, Atlanta and Washington, D.C. ■
Students Reap Benefits of Alumni Experience

STUDENTS CONTINUE TO REAP BENEFITS FROM THE PLATTSBURGH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION’S STUDENT/ALUMNI CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

The program, which began connecting students to alumni in January 2007, continues to grow. Now, nearly 900 alumni and friends of the college have offered to network with students, providing them with information about careers, relocation and more. These volunteers meet with students online through Cardinal Connections.

Students search through this database, find alums with experience and email their questions.

Alissa Cody ’07 has made good use of the system. She plans to graduate with a master’s in literacy this year and then move to New York City to teach.

Relocating and maneuvering through the channels to find a teaching career in the big city can be intimidating. As a result, Cody was glad to network with alumni who have successfully made the transition.

“It was nice to talk to someone who had done what I’m doing,” said Cody, who encourages others to use the system. “It’s easy.”

Students and alumni are not just meeting in the virtual world, however. Take Douglas McManus ’89 G’91 for example. McManus, the president of the Alumni Association and director of the Office of Policy and Management Operations at the U.S. Department of Justice, returned to campus this spring to interview some students and chat with others about career options.

“I learned a lot speaking with Doug McManus,” said Zackary Bavaro, who attended SUNY Plattsburgh this spring.

“One of the most important things I got out of meeting with Doug is that just because you choose accounting as a major doesn’t mean you have to become an accountant,” said Bavaro. “Speaking with great alumni such as Doug helps not only broaden an understanding about careers but introduces new ones as well.”

The center is preparing students for careers in other ways. For instance, this past year saw the introduction of the Dress for Success Fashion Show, supported through a grant from College Auxiliary Services. The event encouraged students to think about the wardrobe changes they will need as they move into the work world. It featured students modeling career fashions, a student makeover and door prizes. The Student/Alumni Center plans to offer the show every year, making it a tradition the night before Career Night.

“The makeover meant a lot to me,” said senior biochemistry major Mohammed Chandoo, who was chosen for a makeover. “It made me feel that I can look confident and be able to succeed in what I’m going for in my career.”

The experience also made him think about coming back to the school after graduation so that he could help others.

“Programs like this enable the students to connect to the school and feel proud of it,” said Chandoo, who added that the programs “broaden their minds and give them the essence of the real world.”

“I am delighted that the leadership of our college and the Alumni Association support programs introducing today’s students to the world of alumni,” said Rose Anderson ’95, director of alumni affairs. “Our alumni are a rich resource for our students, our college and for each other.”

Bavaro agrees.

“The Student/Alumni Center for Professional Development and Alumni Association are great tools I think every college student should use,” he said.
Come Celebrate the Plattsburgh Spirit, Hawaiian Style. OCTOBER 17-19, 2008

**HOMEcoming 2008**

**FRIDAY EVENTS**

- Journalism Seminar .................................................. Free
- Lunch & Golf Outing .................................................. x $40 ea. = __________
- Art Museum Tour/Luncheon ........................................... x $15 ea. = __________
- ODK Alumni Panel .................................................. Free
- Welcome Back Tour .................................................. Free
- Planetarium Show 4 p.m. ........................................... Free
- Planetarium Show 6 p.m. ........................................... Free
- Sports Hall of Fame Dinner .......................................... x $22 ea. = __________
- Golden Anniversary Reception ..................................... Free
- Welcome Back Buffet .................................................. x $22 ea. = __________
- Jeopardy Contest  □ Count me in on a team ...................... Free
- Open Mic Coffee House Email alumni@plattsburgh.edu if you want to show your talent... Free
- Prism Concert .................................................. $5 ea.
- Fabulous Fireworks .................................................. Free
- Samuel D’s .................................................. Munchies - Cash Bar

**TOTAL FRIDAY = __________**

**SATURDAY EVENTS**

- Bright with Promise .................................................. Free
- ODK Breakfast .................................................. Free
- Info Session and Tour .................................................. Free
- Golden Anniversary Brunch ........................................... x $15 ea. = __________
- SSS 30th Reunion .................................................. Free
- Akeba Alumni Reception .................................................. Free
- Planetarium Show .................................................. Free

**OPEN HOUSE RECEPTIONS (See listings for times)**

- EOP .................................................. Free
- Nursing .................................................. Free
- Student Association Open House ..................................... Free
- Honors Program .................................................. Free
- ’80s, ’90s, ’00s Happy Hour Co-sponsored by Residence Life x $5 ea. = __________
- Presidents’ Reception & Homecoming Dinner x $30 ea. = __________

**TOTAL SATURDAY = __________**

**SUNDAY EVENTS**

- Farewell Brunch .................................................. x $15 ea. = __________
- Gospel Choir .................................................. Free

**TOTAL SUNDAY = __________**

**Please enter your event reservation totals**

- Friday $ ____________________________
- Saturday $ ____________________________
- Sunday $ ____________________________
- Grand Total $ ____________________________

- □ I have enclosed a check for the above amount
- □ Bill my credit card  □ MasterCard □ Visa □ Discover

Card # __________________________________________________
Expiration Date: _______/_______
Signature: ________________________________________________

**REGISTER BY OCTOBER 4.** Please make checks payable to the Plattsburgh Alumni Association, and return your registration form and checks to: Plattsburgh Alumni Association, 101 Broad St., Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901-2681. We’ll mail your confirmation material. After Oct. 10, we will hold your packet to be picked up at the information table in the Angell College Center on Friday, Oct. 17 after 3 p.m. or Saturday, Oct. 18 after 9 a.m. For more information please call Rose Anderson ’95, director of Alumni Affairs, at 518-564-2090 or 800-964-1889. Our fax number is 518-564-2094. During Homecoming Weekend call 518-569-8565.

Name ______________________________________________________
Class Year __________________________________________________
Former Name ________________________________________________
Major ______________________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________________
□ new address
City ______________________________________________________
State ______________________________ Zip __________________
Home Phone (        ) ______________________________________
Business Phone (        ) ______________________________________
Email ______________________________________________________
Spouse or Guest Name ____________________ Class Year ______
Parent of a student, please fill in the student’s name and class year.
Name ____________________________________ Class Year ______

We encourage you to return your registration form and a gift in honor of Homecoming in the envelope provided in the center of this magazine. Thank you.
1940
Dr. Erwin Steinberg is professor emeritus of English and rhetoric at Carnegie Mellon University, retiring after 61 years. He held a variety of posts there, including dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and vice provost of education. In addition to teaching at Carnegie Mellon, he served as a communications consultant in industry and with various government and community organizations. He received the Alumnus of the Year Award from SUNY Plattsburgh in 1971.

1944
Four classmates from the class of 1944 have gotten together nearly every year for a mini-reunion since graduating. Gathering once again in August 2007 were: Phyllis (Welling) Barlow; Ellen (Dobbs) Yarmchuk; Eloise (Coon) Massmann and Laura (Harter) Havens.

1950
Anne (Bethel) Heaney is a retired teacher from the Farmingdale Public School District. She resides in Hempstead, N.Y., and is looking forward to her 60th reunion in 2010.

Jeanine Nolan, who serves as first vice president of the Arc of Onondaga Board, was appointed by the governor to serve as a member of the Board of Visitors of the Central New York Developmental Disabilities Service Office. The Board of Visitors monitors and improves the quality of care for those with developmental disabilities. Nolan resides in Fayetteville, N.Y.

1960
Carol (Mick) McTigue, Gretchen (Stier) Brodish, Alice (Williamson) Jones and Barbara (Strader) Gold, home economics graduates from the class of 1960, had a mini-reunion during the summer of 2007 at the Saratoga race track in Saratoga, N.Y.

1968
Bonnie Demers G’77, elementary teacher for the Malone Central School District, has been recognized by Cambridge Who’s Who for showing dedication, leadership and excellence in primary education. She has 39 years of teaching experience in Malone.

1971
David Nicandri, executive director of the Washington State Historical Society in Tacoma, Wash., a distinguished visiting alum this spring, spoke to students about his experiences while at Plattsburgh and since graduating. A published expert on the Lewis and Clark expedition, he is working on a book about Alexander McKenzie, a Montreal fur trader whose explorations influenced Thomas Jefferson to authorize the Lewis and Clark expedition. In addition to the historical society, Nicandri is also responsible for administering the historical museum, grant programs, outreach efforts and coordination of National History Day for middle and high school students. Nicandri also serves as executive editor of Columbia Magazine, the magazine of northwest history.

1973
Delene (Camplin) Pearl retired from her position as earth science teacher with the Lake Shore Central Middle School in Angola, N.Y., in June 2006. She and her husband, Nick, are the parents of a daughter, Christine, who is completing her freshman year at Ithaca College. The family resides in Angola.

1974
Warren Liebold, director of metering and conservation with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, was an invited presenter at the 2008 Waterwise Conference, Keble College, Oxford, U.K.

1975
Retired Lt. Col Hugh Beemer is the new vice president for Pacific Asia operations, sales and marketing for Le Distribution Pointe, which distributes more than 100,000 products and services to Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Asia and the Pacific Rim, including North and South America. He has been active in veterans’ affairs and was elected chairman of the Veterans Voice of the Pacific, a veterans’ advocacy group representing veterans from throughout Hawaii and the Pacific. He serves as a veterans’ services officer for Disabled American Veterans and is on staff of the Hawaii District Royal Rangers, serving as the program’s coordinator. Beemer is also active in the American Legion and Air Force Association. He and his wife, Shirley, reside in Miliani, Hawaii.

1976
Dr. James Bonner, director of the Center for the Environment at Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y., is the River and Estuary Observatory Network director of research with the Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries. A nationally recognized expert in real-time water monitoring technologies, Bonner...
will lead the development and implementation of the REON to create the first technology-based monitoring and forecasting network for rivers and estuaries. It is a joint effort between the Beacon Institute, IBM and Clarkson University.

Anthony Cassella, chief operating officer, chief financial officer and member of the office of the president of Croscill Inc., a home décor company in New York City, has been named director-at-large of the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants at its 111th annual election meeting and dinner at the New York Hilton on May 15. Casella belongs to the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Financial Executives International, the Institute of Management Accountants.

1977 Wayne Miller and his wife, Denise Zechner-Miller, spent a week with Paul Baillargeon ’78 at his home in Snowmass, Colo., where he has been a senior-level ski instructor for many years. Miller and his wife reside in Guilderland, N.Y.

1978 Guy Facteau has retired after 26 years with the New York State Department of Correctional Services. He is substitute teaching French and Spanish in the Chateaugay Central School District.

1979 Diane (Miller) Samelak retired from the U.S. Navy and is now a pediatric nurse practitioner at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center in Winston Salem, N.C. She married Timothy Samelak in 1986. They are the parents of daughter, Abigail, 20, and son, Benjamin, 18. The family resides in Greensboro, N.C.

1981 William Branthoover (left), Brian Green (right)

What’s NEWS?
Clip, complete and mail or fax your info to: CLASSNOTES, Alumni Affairs, SUNY Plattsburgh, 101 Broad St., Plattsburgh, NY 12901-2681, 800-964-1889, fax 518-564-2094, or email alumni@plattsburgh.edu

For best results please submit original print photos instead of digital images.

Name ___________________________ Former ___________________________ What’s New? ___________________________
Year ___________________________ Major ___________________________
Address ___________________________ ___________________________
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City ___________________________ State ___________________________ Zip ___________________________
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☐ Check here if new address.
and Tim Shaer ’82 (center) explore Smuggler’s Cave in Stowe, Vt., in the fall of 2007.  

1982  

John Carlin, lead anchor and managing editor with the NBC affiliate station WSLS 10 in Roanoke, Va., accepted a Peabody Award on behalf of the station’s coverage of the first 48 hours of the Virginia Tech shootings. The awards presentation was held in New York City in June. The station provided live coverage through two intense days, from the first alert to the second day when information was forthcoming from officials. The Peabody is the international prize in electronic media and has been awarded annually since 1941. In addition to serving as anchor at the station, Carlin was also an adjunct faculty member at Virginia Tech where he taught broadcast writing for 11 years. He has twice won the Emmy Award for reporting along with numerous Associate Press awards. He and his wife, Mary (Weinman) Carlin ’84, reside in Roanoke with their sons, Jonathan, Benjamin and Tyler.

Thom Hallock is the new anchor/producer of Mountain Lake Journal at Mountain Lake PBS in Plattsburgh. Hallock had been an anchor at the NBC affiliate in Plattsburgh, WPTZ. Hallock will help Mountain Lake PBS expand its public affairs reporting by writing and producing the weekly news program. He will also anchor the PBS station’s 2008 election and political coverage in addition to other special investigatory reports and documentaries. Hallock received two Edward R. Murrow awards and an Emmy nomination for environmental series about Lake Champlain.  

George Wright is the new vice president of worldwide sales for SugarCRM, provider of commercial open-source customer relationship management software. He brings more than 25 years of sales and management experience in the high-tech sector to SugarCRM. He is responsible for the management and expansion of the company’s global sales force. He was previously senior vice president and general manager of world wide field operations for Epiphany Inc., where he oversaw day-to-day operations of sales, renewals, professional services and education.  

1984  

Matthew Berman was named executive vice president and chief operating officer at Homemade Baby, makers of fresh, organic baby food. Berman joins the company from Royal Numico, the world’s second-largest baby food company where he headed the company’s baby food operations in Portugal. He started his career in marketing at Procter and Gamble and attended the Wharton School of Business. He is the father of three boys, ages 8, 6 and 4.

1986  

Bill Giesler has returned to college full time for his master’s degree in education after more than 17 years in the automobile business. He is attending Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and hopes to be teaching American history when finished. He and his wife, Beth, are the parents of daughters Aubrey, 11, and Marisa, 8, and reside in Hyde Park, N.Y.

1987  


1989  

James Marion G’89 joined the Ellenville, N.Y., office of engineering firm Barton & Loguidice P.C., as senior environmental consultant. A resident of Grahamsville, N.Y., Marion recently retired from the New York State Department of Correctional Services where he was in charge of the waste management programs for 70 correctional facilities throughout the state. He is a founding member of the New York State Organics and Recycling Council, a board member of the Federation of New York Solid Waste Associations; and a member of the Cornell University Waste Management Institute.

1990  

Harry D’Elia successfully completed the Realtor e-Pro course to become one of a select few real estate professionals to earn the certification offered through the National Association of Realtors. The Realtor e-Pro certification course is an on-line educational program designed to help real estate agents stay on the cutting edge of technology and identify, evaluate and implement new Internet business models. Matthew Murphy is a partner with the certified public accounting firm of Rosen Seymour Shaposs Martin & Company LLP in New York City. Murphy joined the firm in 1998 and provides accounting and auditing services for service, manufacturing, construction, broker/dealers, private technical schools, publishing, Internet, retail and real estate industries. Additionally, he handles Securities and Exchange Commission and employee benefit plan projects. He received his master’s in taxation from St. John’s University in 1995 and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants.

1994  

Jennifer (Crump) Anderson earned her master’s degree in physician assistant studies in 2003 from Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C., and is a hospitalist for the psychiatry unit at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany, Ga. She and her husband, Douglas, were married May 21, 2005. She is the stepmother to son, Michael, 18, and daughter, Katy, 14. The family resides in Albany.

Kris (Kimmerly) Ruby is a fourth-grade 12:1:1 special education teacher at Stevens Elementary School in Burnt Hills, N.Y. She started her career there 10 years ago and serves as co-adviser for the fourth- and fifth-grade student council. She is the curriculum representative for special services in the building. Ruby is working on her graduate degree in curriculum and instruction at the SUNY Plattsburgh Branch Campus at Adirondack Community College. She and her husband, Ray, reside in South Glens Falls, N.Y., with their daughters, Madison, 7, and Brooke, 4.

Dr. Hassan Tetteh was admitted to the John F. Kennedy School of Government’s Lucas N. Littauer Master in Public Administration Program for the 2008-2009 academic year. The cardio-
thoracic surgeon at the University of Minnesota will participate in the school's mid-career master of public administration program, which provides courses in microeconomics, analytics and public management and offers opportunities to strengthen basic skills for academic work.

1996

Luigi Crespo (above right) was appointed director of special projects and protocol at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security where he is responsible for protocol, support, branding and high-impact event production for the department. Prior to his appointment, he served for six years as director of special events and protocol at the U.S. Agency for International Development. In addition to his management and high-impact event production responsibilities, Crespo is responsible for protocol, support, branding and high-impact event production of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security where he previously served as director of special events and protocol at the U.S. Agency for International Development. In addition to his protocol and government duties, Crespo serves as assistant troop leader of Girl Scout Troop 81632 of Frederick, Md.

Marc Jablon is the new chairman of the board of AFA Music Group. Jablon has managed more than 100 public relations campaigns over six years. He previously worked for the Disney Corporation in Orlando, Fla., and later went on to work in the investor relations industry, creating Big Apple Consulting where he currently serves as president and chairman of the board. In addition, he serves as CEO and director of Management Solutions International, a full-service business and consulting firm.

1997

Delena (Dee Garlarneau) Clark ’01 retired as director of the North Country Small Business Development Center of the SUNY Plattsburgh School of Business and Economics. She had served as center director for seven years, supervising the counseling of 2,169 North Country business clients and helping to create or save 1,168 jobs. Clark and her husband, Robert ’74, are relocating to South Carolina.

Kristina (McCarthy) Martin is a fifth-grade teacher in the Deer Valley Unified School District in Phoenix, Ariz. She received the Deer Valley Education Foundation’s Teacher of the Year Award for the 2007-2008 school year.

1998

Michele Byno is vice president of long-term care at Adirondack Medical Center in Saranac Lake, N.Y. She is responsible for the daily operations of AMC’s two skilled-nursing facilities. Byno is the administrator of record for AMC-Uihlein in Lake Placid, N.Y., and holds administrative oversight for AMC-Mercy in Tupper Lake, N.Y., where she most recently served as the assistant vice president of long-term care. She and her husband, Robert, are the parents of a son, Rob, and reside in Saranac Lake.

James Dawsey ’98 is the new chief operating officer of MLB Construction Services, LLC. He is responsible for the daily operations of the commercial construction services firm. He joined MLB in 1987 as project manager, was promoted to senior project manager in 1992 and was named vice president for operations in 1997. He is a civil engineering graduate of Manhattan College.

Kenneth Drake is the new sports reporter/weekend sports anchor at WPTZ NewsChannel 5 in Plattsburgh. He has worked in various positions at WPTZ for the past seven years, both behind the scenes and in front of the camera.

Daniel Scavino, general manager of Trump National Golf Club in Briarcliff Manor, N.Y., was awarded the Greater Southern Dutchess Chamber of Commerce 40 Under 40 “Shaker Award,” which recognizes 40 people under 40 who have made “remarkable strides in the community, have a vision for the region’s business future, are business savvy beyond their years and have the passion to take risks to make their dreams happen.” Scavino and his wife, Jennifer ’98, are the parents of sons Ethan and Justin and reside in Hopewell Junction, N.Y.

2000

Kevin Dimino has been a police officer with the New York Police Department since 2004. He and his wife, Martine, reside in Staten Island, N.Y.

2001

Aaron Rosenbaum earned his doctorate in psychology from Penn State in December 2007 after completing his dissertation, “An Examination of the Knowledge About and Attitudes Toward Concussion in High School Athletics, Coaches and Athletic Trainers.” He is currently an adjunct professor at Penn State.

Dr. Adam McGlynn received his Ph.D. in political science from Stony Brook University in May 2007. He is assistant professor of political science at the University of Texas-Pan American in Edinburg, Texas. He and his wife, Jocelyn (Banwarth) McGlynn ’01, reside with their daughter, Shea Madison, in McAllen, Texas.

John Tyler works for Public Energy Solutions, a company that helps businesses change their current inefficient lighting, motors and air conditioning to commercial-grade energy-efficient methods. His company helps reduce hundreds of megawatts of energy and millions of dollars in electric costs in Westchester County and New York City.

2002

Thomas McNichols, who until recently was a performer singing bass with the choral group, Cantus, sang at the semi-finals of the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions. He declined to renew his contract with Cantus and instead is now under representation by Robert Lombardo and Associates of New York City in the hopes of getting back into opera and concert work.

2003

Mark Peek of Gloversville, N.Y., stars in the independent horror film, “The Abandoned,” produced by the Utica, N.Y.-based company, Mad Angel Films. Peek works at the Target Distribution Center outside Amsterdam, N.Y., and appeared on stage at the Glove Theater in Gloversville and the Colonial Little Theater in Johnstown, N.Y.

Alan Fabiano joined the engineering, science and operations firm of Woodard & Curran as a geographic information system analyst. Fabiano previously served with the U.S. Army and Army National Guard and has experience with GIS and infrastructure mapping in New York and at military bases abroad.

2007

Bryce Lamberto is a benefits administrator for Primm Valley Casino Resorts, Las Vegas, Nev. He administers various employee benefits programs such as group insurance, life, medical and dental, accident and disability insurance, 401(k), and health maintenance organizations. He is also responsible for implementing new benefit programs, arranging and conducting employee-information presentations and enrollments. He
CLASSNOTES

Engagements, Weddings and Anniversaries

1997

Colleen Kennedy and Brian Cole ’99 were married Nov. 4, 2006 at the Ramapo Reformed Church in Mahwah, N.J. Colleen is a graphic designer for Mosaic Design Group in Nyack, N.Y. Brian is director of guest services at the Crowne Plaza in Albany, N.Y. A number of Plattsburgh State alumni were in attendance, including: Craig Kennedy ’96; Andrew Casabonne ’96; Bill Burke ’96; Stacey Nowak ’96; Dorothy Demou ’96; David Smith ’95; Brian Tepper ’97; John Shanley ’97; Jill Austin ’97; Amy (Yustein) Moran ’97; and John Moran ’87. The couple resides in Ballston Spa, N.Y.

1999

Craig Storrow and Lori Carlo were married Oct. 14, 2006 at the Turning Stone Casino and Resort in Verona, N.Y. Plattsburgh State alumni in attendance included: Jeff LeDioyt ’00; Michelle (Boeshore) LeDioyt ’99 G’01; Charles Abunav ’00; Summer Szell ’00; Brian McQuestion ’01; Tom Boyle ’02; Ciro Cascella ’97; Paul Neglia ’02; Geoff Gordon ’02; Andy Cyr ’99; George Williamson ’96; Mary (Dombrowski) DiNardi ’99; Chrissy (Lillo) Block ’00; Erik Block ’00; Peter DiNardi ’00; Justin Aim ’98; Amanda Flowers ’00; Tara Hepfer ’01; Ryan Voss ’97; Craig Armstrong ’99; Derek French ’98; Debi Maulucci ’98; Jennifer (Tusa) Hughes ’98; and John (Brad) Hughes ’97. The couple resides in Guilderland, N.Y.

2000

Nicholas Booth and Crystal Schuy ’02 were married Oct. 21, 2007 at Christ the King Church in Commack, N.Y. Crystal works in human resources for A&E Television Networks in Manhattan. Nicholas is a computer programmer for Oberon Media in Manhattan. The couple resides in Bayside, N.Y.

2002

Mindy Wojewodzic and Donald Johnston were married Sept. 29, 2007 at St. Patrick’s Church in Port Henry, N.Y. She is employed at CVPH Medical Center in Plattsburgh. He is employed at NES Management Services in Plattsburgh. They reside in West Chazy, N.Y.

David Fortin and Lisa E. LaFave-Kiah were married April 21, 2007 in Lake Placid, N.Y. David is a secure care treatment aide at the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center-Bridgeview in Ogdensburg, N.Y. Lisa is a registered nurse at Canton-Potsdam Hospital. The couple resides in Ogdensburg.

Christine Pierce and Bryan Pelto announce their engagement. Pierce is a professional nanny and educator in Newbury Park, Calif. Pelto is director of food and beverage at the Four Seasons resort in Westlake Village, Calif. A March 20, 2009 wedding is planned.

Renee Gordon G’03 and Matthew DeBlock were married July 7, 2007 at St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church in Clifton Park, N.Y. The reception was held in Saratoga Springs where they were joined by many
Plattsburgh State alumni, including several of the bridesmaids and mother and brother of the bride. Those alumni in attendance included: Amy (Colone) Clancy ’02; Cassie Andrews ’03; Kelly (Quigley) McWilliams ’02; Beth (Ghee) Pereira ’02; Gina Conrad ’01; Courtney Baldwin ’02; Lynn Conlon ’91; Isabelle (Julien) Dickens ’99; Kevin Gordon ’08; Kim O’Leary ’03; Liz Amati ’02; Nancy (Marcino) Gordon ’74; Amanda (Johnson) Brunson ’01; Kelly Beyea ’03; and Charlie Dickens ’97. Renee teaches fifth grade at the William H. Barton Intermediate School in the Queensbury (N.Y.) School District. Matthew is a financial analyst at General Electric in Schenectady, N.Y. The couple resides in Glens Falls, N.Y.

Elizabeth Hirschhorn and Sage McEnery were married Nov. 10, 2007 in Charlotte, N.C. Elizabeth is a public relations/marketing specialist. Sage is a programmer. They reside in Fort Mill, S.C.

2003
Jessica Commo G’07 and Tyler Wilson ’08 were married July 20, 2007 at the Plattsburgh Memorial Chapel on the old Plattsburgh Air Force Base oval. She is a high school special educator at Bellows Free Academy in St. Albans, Vt. He graduated this May with a degree in environmental science. He works at Anthony’s Restaurant and Bistro in Plattsburgh. The couple resides in Ballston Spa, N.Y.

Jodi Facteau and Jay St. Gelais were married Oct. 6, 2007 at the Saranac United Methodist Church in Saranac, N.Y. Jodi is a junior high/high school special-education teacher and assistant varsity volleyball coach in Schaghticoke, N.Y. Jay is a software engineer for Commerce Technologies in Albany, N.Y. The couple resides in Ballston Spa, N.Y.

Adam Mickel and Julie Gosselin were married May 24, 2008 at the First Presbyterian Church in Whitehall, N.Y. Adam is a corrections officer with the Vermont Department of Corrections. Julie is a medical transcriptionist at Glens Falls Hospital. The couple resides in Whitehall.

William Stewart and Jenny Stegel were married May 12, 2007 at A Wedding in the Country, in East Galway, N.Y. The couple resides in Rochester, N.Y.

2004
Alexa Gordon and Christopher Bennett ’05 were married May 20, 2007 at the Riviera in Massapequa, N.Y. Many Plattsburgh State alumni were in attendance, including: Stacy (Carter) Lindsay ’05; Marissa Chasanoff ’06; Jessica Elmendorf ’06; Sheri Beckwith-Trombley ’05 G’07; Kelly Beyea ’03; Kate Gardner ’05; Sara Carlson ’04; Cory Conway ’06; Matthew Furst ’05; Mike Anajovich ’04; Adam Sears ’05; Bill Lindsay ’05; Katie Hafenstein ’05; Christine Volpi ’04; and Kevin Hanselman ’05.

Bill Lindsay and Stacy Carter ’05 were married Oct. 5, 2007 at Mallorzi’s Banquet Hall in Schenectady, N.Y. Plattsburgh State alumni served as members of the wedding party, including: Faith Ansah ’05; Jeremy Bartman ’03; Lauren Gim ’05; and Jeff Maclutsky ’06. The couple resides in Mahopac, N.Y.

2005
R. Scott Birge Jr. and Denise Venezio were married Aug. 4, 2007 in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Plattsburgh State alumni in attendance included: R. Scott Birge Sr. ’75; Nita (Perrelle) Birge ’75; Terri (Hathaway) Sullivan ’83; Melanie (Munson) O’Brien ’77; Toni Perrelle ’87; Ian Finisterre ’05; Joshua Yoo ’06; Kenneth Sherwood ’04; Kevin Sherwood ’06; Michael Kass ’05; Sean DeBottis ’06; Stelianos Canallatos ’05; Zachary Wyatt ’06; and Steve Matthews ’90 G’94. Denise is a second-grade teacher at Schuyerville Elementary School, and Scott is a teacher at North Colonie Junior High School.

2006
Kimberly Brindle and Douglas Smith have announced their engagement. Brindle is a loan officer with American Southwest Mortgage of Dallas, Texas. Smith is the chief executive officer of Home Centers Inc. of Texas in Dallas. A May 2009 wedding is planned.

Sam Berrick and Erin O’Neill have announced their engagement. Berrick is employed at FedEx and Schonbek in Plattsburgh. O’Neill is a certified nurse assistant at Meadowbrook Healthcare in Plattsburgh. A Sept. 12, 2009 wedding is planned.

2007
Rosemary Yacoob and Erik Wooding were engaged in Central Park in New York City in December 2007. Yacoob is a registered nurse at New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell Hospital in the acute rehab unit. Wooding is an audio/video technician for Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen and Hamilton LLP. A 2010 wedding is planned.

Krystal Lugo and Jonathan Buhs announce their engagement. Lugo is executive assistant in the property tax division for General Electric in Danbury, Conn. Buhs is the main caretaker for the St. Barnabas Church, elementary and high school in Bronx, N.Y. A Nov. 15, 2008 wedding is planned.

Michael Szabo and Diana Rosner were married April 21, 2007 at the Watermill Catering Hall, Smithtown, N.Y. Michael is a senior associate director of financial services at Fordham University, and Diana is an attorney. The couple resides in Kings Park, N.Y.
Katie Talmage Homan and her husband, John, announce the birth of their son, Jesse William, April 4, 2006. The family resides in Richmond, Va.

Timothy Darcy and his wife, Erica, announce the birth of their first child, daughter Molly Marie, June 21, 2007. The family resides in Highland, N.Y.

Sheri (Rosenfeld) Davis and her husband, Ted, announce the birth of their son, Andrew James, Oct. 31, 2007. The family resides in Commack, N.Y.

Rachel (Levine) Donnatin and her husband, John, announce the birth of their daughter, Mia Rose, Feb. 25, 2008. The family resides in Williston Park, N.Y.

David Noakes and his wife, Alison (Golini) Noakes ’95, announce the birth of their daughter, Evelyn Isabella, Sept. 14, 2007. The family resides in Port St. John, Fla.

Erin (Gurski) Butt and her husband, Eric, announce the birth of their daughter, Kelsey Debra, March 12, 2008. The family resides in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Laurence Sapsonnick and his wife, Erin, are the parents of daughter, Riley, 2. The family resides in Holtsville, N.Y.

Adam Hamou and his wife, Carrie O’Reilly-Hamou’00, announce the birth of their daughter, Alyssa Madison, April 27, 2007. The family resides in Bellmore, N.Y.

Angela (Lambiase) Kiang announces the birth of her son, Andrew Chaning, Feb. 29, 2008. The family resides in Rocky Point, N.Y.

Craig Storrow and his wife, Lori (Carlo) Storrow, announce the birth of their daughter, Sofia Rose, Aug. 26, 2007. The family resides in Guilderland, N.Y.

Joseph DeSario and his wife, Amy (Gramlich) DeSario announce the birth of their first child, son Landon Joseph, March 6, 2008. The family resides in Rochester, N.Y.

Lindsay (Williams) Knott G’05 and her husband, Mike, announce the birth of their first child, daughter Reilly Margaret, March 9, 2008. The family resides in Glenmont, N.Y.

Alumni (Continued)

James Keenan ’59 June 3, 2008 – Hudson Falls, N.Y.
William Santamore ’61 March 5, 2008 – Morrisonville, N.Y.
Richard Farber ’76 Jan. 8, 2008 – Danbury, Conn.
Emily (Johnson) Brown ’81 Feb. 7, 2008 – Cadyville, N.Y.
Carol (Wilson) Cates G’82 Feb. 3, 2008 – Buffalo, N.Y.
Marilyn (Ryan) O’Connor G’83 May 30, 2008 – Plattsburgh, N.Y.
Clare Paolantonio-Locilento ’86 June 13, 2008 – Marlton, N.J.
Benita Garland ’87 May 3, 2008 – Albany, N.Y.
Kelly (Kipp) Fredenburg ’90 April 18, 2008 – Chazy, N.Y.
Larry Brink ’92 March 18, 2008 – Bloomingdale, N.Y.
Alyce (Phinney) Kilburn ’92 April 20, 2008 – Elizabethtown, N.Y.
Sherry Healing ’93 G’96 May 20, 2008 – Modesto, Calif.
David Snyder ’97 G’99 March 21, 2008 – West Coxsackie, N.Y.
The Last Word

AFTERNOON ON THE UPPER BOUQUET
by Roger Mitchell

Backs on the rock, tremor
of the rain-fattened
river beneath us,
the faint drumming
of water tumbling
through closed caverns
below, the earth’s pulse
ours for a moment,
sky taking shape
from almost nothing, blues
melting into paler blues, those
into something almost
white, almost
erased. I know what you’re thinking.
I think it, too.

No other life will do.


The Saranac Review is a SUNY Plattsburgh international literary journal created and administered through the English department. Its editors are always looking for the best in fiction, poetry, and non-fiction from the United States and Canada. Their foremost goal is to create a forum for faculty and students to experience excellence in contemporary writing.

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