


# NEW PALTZ

The Alumni Magazine of the State University of New York at New Paltz Fall 2014

A photograph of a man with short grey hair, smiling, wearing a khaki button-down shirt and blue jeans. He is standing in a laboratory or museum setting, next to a white tray filled with numerous bird specimens (stuffed birds) arranged in rows. Each specimen has a small white tag attached to its leg. The background shows bookshelves and a bulletin board with various papers and photos.

**The Ambassador of Mohonk Mountain**

STEM Research Flourishes at New Paltz

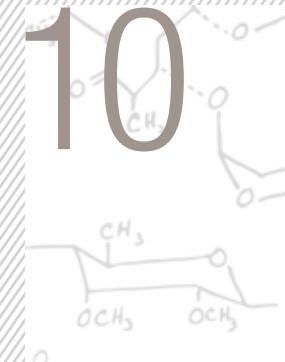
Alumnus Shapes Modern Television

# NEW PALTZ

State University of New York at New Paltz

Fall 2014

Volume 33, No. 1



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*Cover:* Paul Huth '72 '79g displays a collection of embalmed birds from the Mohonk Preserve (photo by John Oles); *above, left:* Zach Zarba '97 officiating the NBA Finals (photo provided).

*Corrections to spring 2014 issue:* Master's degree information was omitted from the Reading Room entry for Robi Johnson '87 '90g; Gloria Sting '58 was incorrectly listed under Class of '50 in Class Notes; David Watson '68 '73g was incorrectly listed as an elementary education major on page 23. His master's degree information was also omitted.

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In keeping with the College's sustainability efforts, this publication was printed on Opus Dull, a 30% post-consumer waste paper.



# COMMENCEMENT 2014

More than 1,400 undergraduate and graduate students walked across the stage in tassels, caps, cords, and gowns at this year's Commencement Ceremonies held May 16 and 18 on the SUNY New Paltz campus. A total of 1,967 undergraduate and 517 graduate degrees were conferred. President Donald P. Christian, who presided over the ceremonies, congratulated the new graduates and recognized their achievements.



"Commencement ceremonies at their core are about recognition. First and foremost, we recognize the achievement of students who have completed the hard academic work of earning a degree. We recognize faculty for sharing knowledge and their understanding of intellectual frontiers with students with such dedication, and for their contributions in pushing back the boundaries of knowledge and human understanding."

— President Donald P. Christian



"During my time here, I have not just encountered a place to earn an education – I have discovered a home. At SUNY New Paltz, you are not just a face in a crowd. The professors are not merely instructors; they are mentors and sources of personal inspiration. Under our professors' guidance, we learned the importance of hard work, global thinking, and problem-solving. We were taught that the most original ideas are generated through collaboration. We realized that an education is only as good as a person's commitment to his or her craft." — Valedictorian Arielle Rubinstein '14



(clockwise from top) Looking down on Old Main Quad as the 2014 Commencement Ceremony gets under way; students gathered for the 2014 Senior Toast, a traditional send-off event where President Donald P. Christian congratulated graduation candidates, welcomed them to the alumni community, and thanked them for their senior gift.



"I have found constant in both the natural and cultural world that change is the rule. I found that the great 20th century conservationist Aldo Leopold summed it up nicely. Looking at the big picture, he felt we are all members and citizens of a land-based community, requiring respect for fellow members and for the community. ... Respect and responsibility, good principles to live by!" — Paul C. Huth '72 '79g, director of research emeritus/associate curator, Daniel Smiley Research Center, Mohonk Preserve

(see feature, page 6)



62% of New Paltz students graduate with loan debt averaging \$24,857

IN 2013, NEW PALTZ CONFERRED 2,059 UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES. 1,277 OF THOSE GRADUATES LEFT WITH AN AVERAGE LOAN DEBT OF \$24,857. THOUGH LOWER THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE, STUDENT LOAN DEBT IS STILL A CHALLENGE FOR OUR GRADUATES. **A \$1 MILLION ENDOWMENT** PROVIDES AN AVERAGE OF \$40,000/YEAR IN PERPETUITY TO OUR STUDENTS. THAT MEANS:

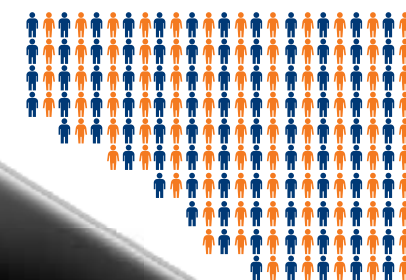
1 Tuition and fees covered for five-to-six students each year!



2 This could be accomplished by:



ten alumni giving \$1,000 each for four years OR



200 alumni giving \$50 each for four years. New Paltz has **63,852** alumni.

Those dots on the opposite page represent only 26,000 alumni!



What could this scholarship money be used for?



STEM: Underrepresented groups in science, engineering and math



Discipline-specific scholarships



Honors: to recruit top-tier students



Student researchers



Community college transfers



General recruitment scholarships

PHONE: 845-257-3240

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imagine how far a \$1 million endowment can go for our students

# THE AMBASSADOR OF MOHONK MOUNTAIN

by Lindsay Lennon '07

Paul Huth '72 '79g (Biology) has had many opportunities to leave the Hudson Valley. But in deciding to stay local his entire life (he still lives in Esopus, N.Y., on his grandmother's farm where he grew up), he's earned himself not just "a great sense of place," but also a title he holds dear to his heart: the ambassador of Mohonk Mountain.

**A**fter working at the Daniel Smiley Research Center at Mohonk Preserve for 40-plus years – first as a volunteer, then as assistant director of research to founder Dan Smiley, and finally as director of the program for 22 years – Huth has thrown away all traditional definitions of “retirement,” and has remained an integral part of the Preserve team as director of research emeritus and associate curator. His tireless dedication to natural studies has been rewarded time and time again – most recently, with an honorary doctorate of science from SUNY New Paltz, where Huth delivered the Commencement address on May 18 (see Commencement coverage on page 2).



But long before college and his years as a researcher, Huth attended grades 1 through 6 at a one-room school with just 30 classmates, and found that the differentiated instruction among students of varied learning abilities “was a real model of personalized education.”

“I think that was a unique experience that ben-

efited who I became and who I am,” says Huth. “Everybody learns at a different speed and different ability, and the teacher – which I realize more now in later years – she was more of an extended mother, in a way, to all the students.”

At Kingston High School in Kingston, N.Y., Huth's report cards painted him as a distracted, inattentive student who failed to turn in homework. But from where he was standing, “I always had what I considered to be more interesting things to do outside.”

“I was determined to go one direction,” says Huth. “Sure, you have to have some requirements, some prerequisites. But we should have the ability to tailor the grade to the student, to where they are expected to go.”

And by the time he arrived at SUNY New Paltz in 1969, Huth found just that: A faculty that accommodated and encouraged his fixation on the natural world, coupled with the individual attention he received at the one-room school he attended as a child. He commended his biology

photos by John Oles





(top left): Paul Huth shows Daniel Smiley's weather and wildlife observations from the 1930s, which were typed onto re-purposed menus from the Mohonk Mountain House.

(bottom): Identifying and tagging species of birds and other animals is one component of Huth's extensive record keeping of Mohonk Preserve's ecosystem.



professors – with Carol Rietsma, Heinz Meng, Selden Spencer, and Jerry LaRoche among his favorite professors – for allowing his coursework to focus on field biology courses.

“I’ve always said that at any institution of higher learning, you can come out with a degree and an education,” says Huth. “But I found that New Paltz, especially, had very talented and giving faculty. It had a tremendous amount of equipment and opportunities for you, as a student, to take advantage of. And I did. ... I was focusing my

degree and my life on outside studies. All of them were very perceptive and very tolerant of me as a student.”

Huth's relationship with Mohonk Preserve started during his college years, when he began working with Smiley at the Research Center as a volunteer, identifying Smiley's herbarium. The two “hit it off very well,” and when one of Smiley's research assistants left in 1982, he hired Huth out of his own pocket. When Smiley passed away seven years later, the board of directors asked Huth if he would pick up Smiley's legacy.

As director, Huth managed a diverse research program consisting of the Smiley Center collections and archives (totaling some 60,000 items). He also oversaw an eight-decade-long ecosystem monitoring and database program, through which the Center made some 12,000 species



observations each year. Huth also coordinated the preserve's Research Associate Program, which accommodated 58 researchers from 30 academic institutions around the country to create a center for the dissemination of information to hundreds of academics, authors, students, reporters, historians, and area residents.

Huth has published more than 100 articles in local and national professional scientific journals and appears in the Marquis “Who's Who in Science & Engineering.” In 2013, he received the Distinguished Environmental Achievement Award from Mohonk Consultations, as well as the John Campanius Holm Award from the National Weather Service. He served as president of the Klyne Esopus Museum,

served two terms on the Eastern New York Chapter Board of Trustees of the Nature Conservancy, and was an at-large member of the Environmental Management Council of Ulster County.

But none of it would have been possible, he says, had it not been for the opportunities presented to him in the Coykendall Science Building all those years ago – a realization that's not always readily obvious in college, but becomes apparent years later.

“You look back and you say, ‘How did I get to be where I am?’ You don't know when you're going through college that there are individuals who, because of their insight and guidance, change the direction of your life,” says Huth. “We might not know who these people are until we're in our career, in

“The relationship between the College and the Preserve is growing, and I think it will continue to grow.”

our 40s or 50s. You think back about that one professor who said, ‘Why don't you come take that course with me?’ And because of that little guidance, it changes your whole life and opens up a new world. I've had a wonderful career, and I can't say it was because of me, as much as the people around me allowing me to take the opportunity to work with them.”

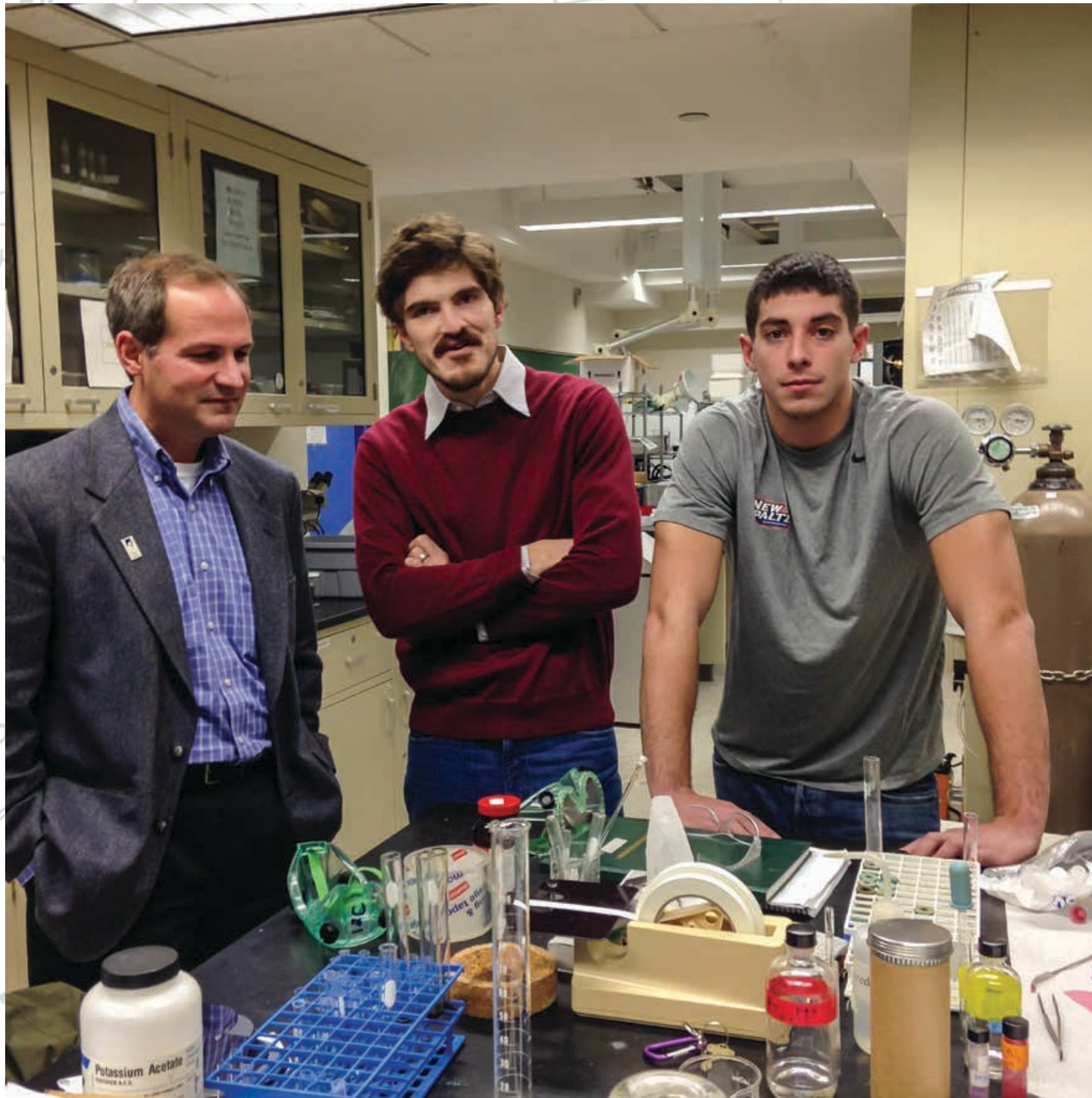
Huth's relationship with SUNY New Paltz has lasted well beyond graduation – and, in turn, the bond between the College and the Preserve has only strengthened over time.

“The relationship between the College and the Preserve is growing, and I think it will continue to grow,” says Huth. “I look at it as a wonderful opportunity for an educational institution and a preserve

to educate each other on what our needs are. I hope all the students can come to Mohonk, to the Preserve, to Minnewaska Park, and hike, climb, bike, whatever they'd like to do. It's an enriching experience.

“The Preserve has an institutional membership with SUNY New Paltz,” Huth added. “You stand anywhere on the New Paltz campus, you see the Shawangunks and Skytop Tower. ... We've got more students now than ever. The faculty is aware of our desire to link the land with the College, not only for student opportunities, but research for faculty. And that doesn't include only science-based programs, but it can be English or poetry or history. All these things, within a very short car drive – or a good bike ride, if you're interested.”

“SUNY New Paltz had very talented and giving faculty... a tremendous amount of equipment and opportunities for you, as a student, to take advantage of.”



# Groundbreaking Research Conducted by Student-Faculty Collaboration

by Lindsay Lennon '07

Back in the late '60s, Gordon Moore, the co-founder of tech industry giant Intel, made an observation that the number of devices that can be packed onto a computer chip was doubling about every 15 months. The concept, dubbed "Moore's Law," is what has enabled the ongoing trend of electronic devices to become smaller and faster with each passing year.

However, "they've used up all the tricks they can to further miniaturize devices on the chip," says SUNY New Paltz School of Science and Engineering Dean Daniel Freedman. "That's where the research we're doing comes in."

In tandem with the SUNY College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) in Albany, SUNY New Paltz students and faculty have been conducting groundbreaking research in developing the next generation of computer chips and advancing Moore's Law to the next level. Funded by \$500,000 in grants from Intel and Sematech, Freedman and a group of six New Paltz chemistry students have been working for the last several years to develop inorganic-based compounds that can be used as photoresists in the industrial process of photolithography,

Research team members (left to right): Dean Daniel Freedman, Miles Marnell '11, and Peter Nastasi '13.

Photos by John Oles and Matt Skillman

"You're going to test it. You're going to optimize it. You're going to expose it to light and see how it works."

—Miles Marnell '11

which is the first step toward forming circuitry on silicon wafers.

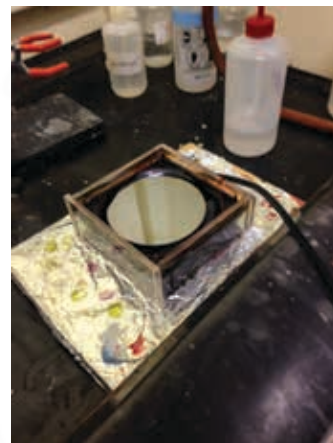
"It's a really nice collaboration between two SUNY schools," says Freedman.

#### Recent grads team up to make new discoveries

Peter Nastasi '13 (Chemistry) worked on the project full time at Freedman's lab at the College for a year after graduation. Miles Marnell '11 (Chemistry), currently a PhD student at the University of Rochester, and Hashim Al-Mashat '12 (Chemistry), pursuing his PhD at the University of California San Diego, also worked on the project full time. Chemistry students Amber Aslam '12, Kara Heard '12, and Rachel Kaminski '14 worked on the project over the summers and throughout the academic year.

"It means a lot to me. Something like this could really help me," says Nastasi. "It's given me a much broader understanding of inorganic chemistry and the entire lab experience as a whole."

Through their work, Freedman and his students – in collaboration with CNSE Associate Professor Dr. Robert Brainard and his graduate students – have been able to invent materials that have never before been considered for Extreme Ultra Violet (EUV)



(above) Freedman's team constructed this spin coater, which whirls the silicon water at centrifugal speed for photolithography. (opposite) Marnell and Nastasi compare notes in the lab.

lithography, which parallel some of the world's best EUV resists. The group submitted a patent request for the process titled Molecular Organometallic Resists for EUV (MORE), with Freedman, Marnell, Brainard, and CNSE's Brian Cardineau credited as the inventors.

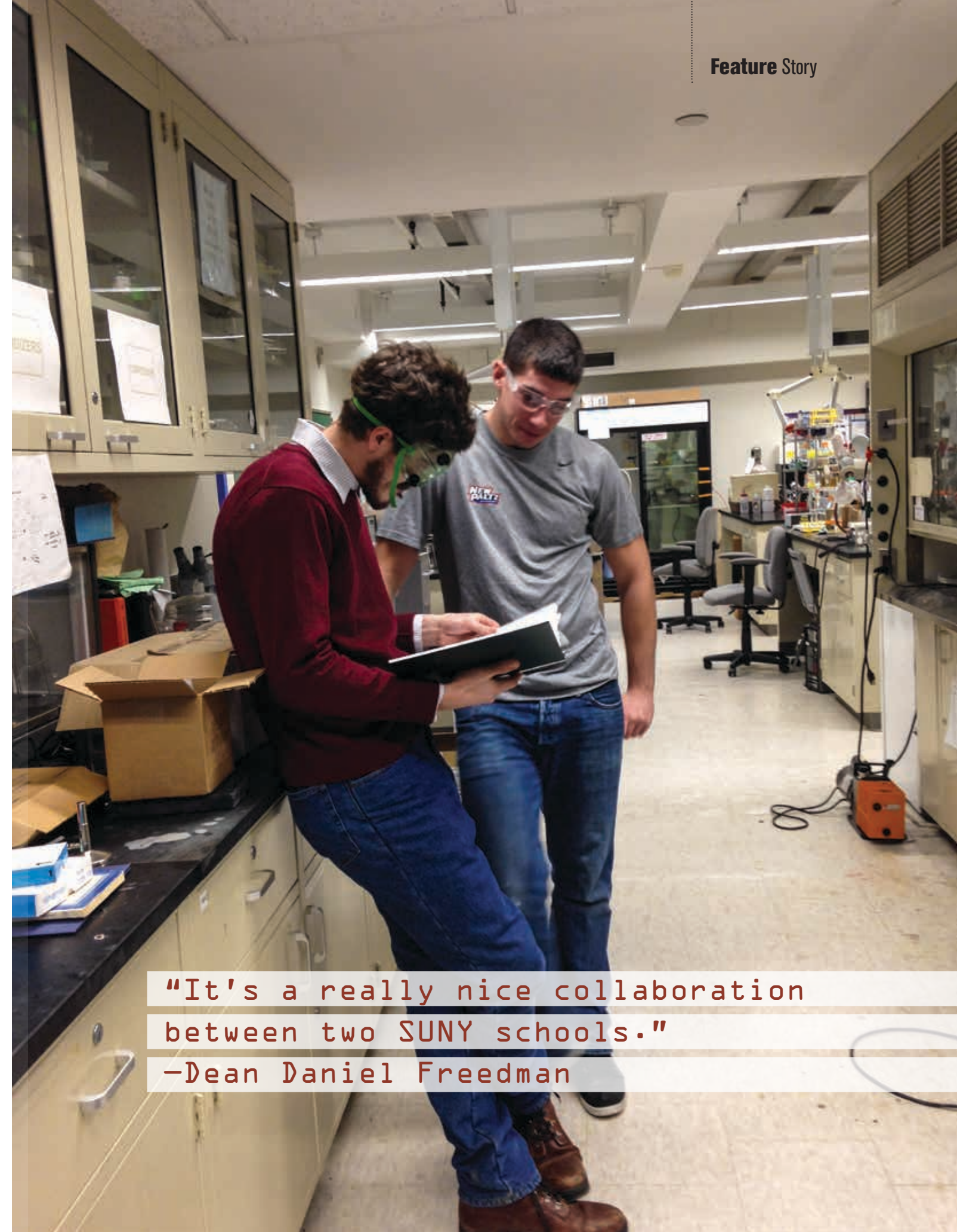
"It's not just making a colored powder to hand in to your teacher at the end of the day," says Marnell. "You're going to follow it through the application process. You're going to test it. You're going to optimize it. You're going to expose it to light and see how it works. It's really nice to actually be able to see real applications of chemistry other than theory and the stuff you get by getting your degree. It's invaluable."

#### Research crosses state and international lines

The project has even brought Marnell to the Paul Scherrer Institute in Switzerland to utilize the facility's synchrotron, a device required to access the necessary light source for testing the materials. Marnell and Nastasi also had the opportunity to use the synchrotron at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, Calif.

"Going to other labs in America and Europe was a really good experience to see how chemistry can be done in other places, and how people interact," says Marnell. "I got to work with scientists who are known in the industry and in academia."

In addition to their patent submission, Freedman presented the team's research to an audience of about 300 people at the Photonics West conference of SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, which took place in February in San Francisco, Calif., and is the "major conference for new developments in photoresist chemistry," Freedman says. Kaminsky also presented the research at an Albany, N.Y., poster session, as well as the Mid-Hudson American Chemical Society Undergraduate Research Symposium at SUNY New Paltz in April. [▶](#)



"It's a really nice collaboration between two SUNY schools."  
—Dean Daniel Freedman



**THE AMC  
AFICIONADO  
AMALGAMATION**

**PORK PIE HAT**

Walter White wears a pork pie hat in the AMC series "Breaking Bad" when he appears as his alter ego, "Heisenberg."



**THE SUIT**

"The staple of Don Draper's wardrobe [on "Mad Men"] is the classic American suit, popularized in the 1950s and 1960s by companies like Ralph Lauren and Brooks Brothers: soft and thick in the shoulders and chest, but tapered at the waist to give a more V-shaped silhouette. His lapels are notched and on the slimmer side, a very characteristic look for Madison Avenue of the early 1960s. The overall natural shape of the suit makes it aggressively 'masculine,' emphasizing the shoulders with a soft drape over them and the chest with a clean V-shape in the front." – Real Men Real Style, "Dress Like the Mad Men: The Fashion of Don Draper"

**CROSSBOW**

The crossbow that Daryl Dixon uses on the "The Walking Dead" is a Stryker StrykeZone. Unlike some of the other characters on the show, Daryl prefers to take down walkers in a quiet fashion so as not to attract the attention of other walkers. An added benefit: re-usable ammunition.

# FROM NEW PALTZ TO THE NEW GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION: ALUMNUS SHAPES MODERN ENTERTAINMENT

by Lindsay Lennon '07

In 2007, seven years before he became the first SUNY New Paltz graduate to deliver the Distinguished Speaker Series lecture, Ed Carroll '85 came back to his alma mater to speak with a group of students about the television industry. After the talk, he couldn't wait to visit his old stomping grounds: 88.7 WFNP The Edge, the campus radio station where he worked as an undergraduate communication and media major.

**"IF YOU DON'T LIKE WHAT IS BEING SAID, THEN CHANGE THE CONVERSATION."**  
—DON DRAPER, MAD MEN

**"WE'RE DONE WHEN I SAY WE'RE DONE."**  
—WALTER WHITE, BREAKING BAD

**"HOW MANY WALKERS HAVE YOU KILLED? HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE YOU KILLED? WHY?"**  
—RICK GRIMES, THE WALKING DEAD

**“I HAPPENED TO GET INTO AN INDUSTRY THAT WAS SEEING EXPONENTIAL GROWTH. WHEN THE TIDE IS RISING, THAT’S A GOOD PLACE TO BE.”**

Carroll, chief operating officer of AMC Networks Inc. and the man behind the creation of some of television’s most successful programs, including “Breaking Bad,” “Mad Men,” and “The Walking Dead,” peeked inside the WFNP office and struck up a conversation with then-third year student and WFNP production director Lindsay Drucker ’09.

Without identifying himself as anyone other than an alum with fond memories of the radio station, Carroll talked to Drucker about the work she was doing and the current state

of radio technology. After a quick chat, he handed her his business card and headed off to his next destination. But communication and media professor Gregory Bray ’00, who was escorting Carroll on his tour, backtracked a few steps to check out Drucker’s reaction.

“You should have seen her face looking at his card,” Bray says.

Drucker did end up connecting with Carroll. As a result, she interned with the Independent Film Channel (IFC), one of the brands that Carroll oversees. She went on to pursue producing at the University of Southern California, and eventually landed professional post-college positions with United Talent Agency and then as an assistant to Lena Dunham, the creator and star of the HBO series “Girls.” Currently, Drucker works for Central Casting in New York City.

“Mr. Carroll’s role in Lindsay’s professional growth cannot be overstated,” says Bray. “To me, this goes to the heart of why our alumni are so important to us. When our students graduate, it is not goodbye. ... Our alumni open the doors to meaningful possibilities for our current students, and at the same time, remind those of us behind the desk why our mission is so important.”

Ed Carroll '85 with “Mad Men” star Jon Hamm at the unveiling of a wax statue of Hamm’s iconic character, Don Draper, at Madame Tussaud’s in New York City.



**LOVE OF RADIO LEADS TO TELEVISION CAREER**

Carroll says he chose SUNY New Paltz because he was interested in attending a state school with a vibrant communication and media program. He lists media and journalism professors Robert Miraldi and James Smith as two faculty members who particularly influenced him.

“New Paltz had the most to offer, as far as SUNY schools go,” Carroll says. “I was surrounded by great people, all of us loving radio. We had this great enthusiasm and generated lots of ideas, and I really had fun. That has continued. I love working with people who have a great passion for their work, because at the end of the day, you have to love what you do.”

Experience and education weren’t the only things he gained from his time at SUNY New Paltz; it’s also where he met his wife, screenwriter and businesswoman **Gina O’Brien-Carroll ’86**.

Carroll briefly worked for a public relations firm in New York City after graduation before returning to the Hudson Valley to work for local classic rock radio station 101.5 FM WPDH. His career in television was launched “by accident” when he answered an ad in *The New York Times* to become a publicity manager for a cable company, which eventually turned out to be AMC/Bravo.

“It’s been a good ride,” he says. “I happened to get into an industry that was seeing



exponential growth. When the tide is rising, that’s a good place to be.”

Carroll is in the business of “green lighting,” the industry term for making the creation of a show possible. As a result of his leadership, AMC has transformed into one of the most successful networks on television. Last year, “The Walking Dead” became the highest rated drama in basic cable history, and “Breaking Bad” won the 2013 Primetime Emmy Award for outstanding drama series and has been widely acclaimed by many critics as one of the greatest television dramas of all time. Carroll also helped to introduce original comedies to IFC programming, including the breakthrough hit “Portlandia.”

**“TELEVISION HAS REPLACED MOVIES”**

Student seating for Carroll’s lecture on March 27 filled to capacity, and his compelling speech on what he calls “The ‘New’ Golden Age of Television” also drew attendees from across the New Paltz community and beyond, including faculty, staff, and local residents.

Carroll took the audience back in time to the infancy of television to illustrate how the definition of a hit show has evolved over the years. In

1964, Carroll says, the top-rated show in the country was “Bonanza,” with 19 million viewers. But as a result of “audience fragmentation,” caused by a surge in the number of available TV channels (up from an average of 33 in the 1990s to 189 as of last year) and the booming popularity of streaming services like Netflix, the top-rated shows of today garner about 11 million viewers or less.

“The confluence of technology and fragmentation, almost by accident, has created a rush toward quality television,” Carroll says. “As television fragments, and we get into a world where 2 million, 3 million, 5 million people watching a single show makes that show a success, something very different

**“THE CONFLUENCE OF TECHNOLOGY AND FRAGMENTATION, ALMOST BY ACCIDENT, HAS CREATED A RUSH TOWARD QUALITY TELEVISION.”**



happens.” He then displayed the 2013 Emmy Award nominees for best television series, which notably did not contain a single show aired on a commercial broadcast network.

“Networks can be rewarded now more than ever for taking a chance, for breaking old formulas, for trying something new, for showing complex characters doing morally ambiguous things,” says Carroll. “You can make it very, very complicated. You don’t have to tie up every episode in a neat little package in a one-hour format. That’s been a revelation. That, I believe, saved ‘Breaking Bad.’”

For Carroll, that means carefully selecting only the best and most unique scripts is crucial to the success of the AMC brand. And based on his track record, it would appear he’s doing something right.

“In a sense, at least for me, television has replaced movies in telling interesting stories, in pushing boundaries,” Carroll says. 📺

Filling a void for students

## Leonard Boccia '89 elected as Vice Chair of Foundation Board

Leonard Boccia '89 says the most memorable lessons he received as a finance and marketing major at SUNY New Paltz were the ones centered on real-life scenarios.



**“I had to borrow money to go to school—I took out loans. So if I could help someone go to school who may otherwise not be able to afford it...sometimes money can solve a problem, and it's the easiest thing to do.”**

“I found that the most productive things we did in the business classes were the actual case studies, like when Mr. Clark had us do a marketing plan for a local winery, or study the Chrysler bailout of the 1970s,” says Boccia.

Now, as a financial advisor for Wells Fargo with 18 years of experience in the financial services industry, Boccia has come full circle to share some of his own real-life experiences with current SUNY New Paltz business students. Boccia feels it's important to contribute to the growth of the College's next generation of business leaders, whether through monetary donations, his involvement as a judge in the School's annual Business Plan Competition, his position as vice chair of the SUNY New Paltz Foundation Board, or visiting classrooms to dispense wisdom.

Boccia says his post-graduation engagement with SUNY New Paltz initially consisted of “minor donations – nothing substantial,” until former School of Business Dean Hadi Salavitarab called him one day and encouraged him to return to campus and become more involved with the students.

“I've been doing it now for a

number of years – coming back to talk to a business class – and people seem to get a lot out of it,” says Boccia. “It's always good for the students to hear from someone in the foxhole, not just their professors.”

Boccia, who grew up in the Bronx and now lives in Scarsdale, N.Y., with his wife and two children, says he wished he'd heard from more successful School of Business alumni when he was a student, and sees his contribution as a way of filling that gap for current and future students.

“When someone who sat where you are sitting is now doing what you want to do, you'll look at it a little bit differently,” says Boccia. “I thought I could offer some value there. I felt that was missing when I was there. It would've been nice to see some of the alumni who made it, or were in the process of making it ... It's one thing to study and get good grades, but what do I do when I get out of here?”

Just as he sees his involvement with the Business Plan Contest and his classroom appearances as a way of filling a void he experienced when he was a student, he sees the act of giving monetary donations as exactly the same thing. Boccia is the vice chair of the SUNY New Paltz Foundation Board, a group of volunteers who raise private funds for the College while also elevating the School's public profile.

Leading the College to new levels

## Foundation announces new board members



The SUNY New Paltz Foundation held its annual meeting of the Board of Directors on June 16 in New York City, welcoming four new officers and three new members, and re-electing four members to three-year terms.

New officers include Chair Michael Keegan (who replaces Patrick Doulin, who completed his term); Vice Chair Leonard Boccia '89; Treasurer Mary Etta Schneider; and Secretary Barbara Scherr. Susan Najork '67 '70g (whose term begins Jan. 1, 2015), Jim F. Passikoff, and SUNY New Paltz Professor Emeritus Giancarlo Traverso were welcomed as new directors, while the terms of Arthur Anderson, Anthony Costa, Noah Dorsky, and Peter Kane '69 were all renewed.

“I'm honored and very excited to succeed prior chairs who have done a great job for the Foundation, and hopefully I can continue doing so as chair,” said Keegan, regional president of M&T Bank's Albany and Hudson Valley divisions and former manager of commercial real estate lending for M&T's Eastern New York region.

Pictured above, clockwise from top left, are new Foundation Board officers: Michael Keegan, Barbara Scherr, Leonard Boccia '89, and Mary Etta Schneider.

Photos by John Oles

## Alumni Advisory Council announced

Fifteen alumni representatives were appointed to the newly formed SUNY New Paltz Alumni Advisory Council. The council represents the more than 63,000 New Paltz alumni that comprise the official SUNY New Paltz Alumni Association.

The Council plays a vital role in the success of alumni relations at SUNY New Paltz. Members assist the College in better engaging its alumni as part of the strategic plan, and advise and report to the College's director of alumni relations.

Alumni representatives are Felix Chevalier '93, Shana Circe '02 '08g, Robin Cohen-La Valle '77 '82g, Candice Dixon '73, Alan Dunefsky '69 '91g, Amanda Gresens '08, Pascal Guirma '86, John Hoeschele '86, Onika Jervis '93 '05g, Keith Kenney '99 '10g, B. Desmond Murray '82, Robert Thorn '66 '70g, Chanel M. Ward '10g, Anthony T. Winn '92, and Christopher Wright '01.

The Council also includes student representatives Oladoyin Olanrewaju '15 and Brian Spina '15. Its administrative members are Director of Alumni Relations Brenda Dow, Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations Erica Marks, and Vice President for Enrollment Management L. David Eaton, former chair of the ad hoc alumni task force. Background about each member is available at [www.newpaltz.edu/alumni/council](http://www.newpaltz.edu/alumni/council).

**NBA Finals to a Winning Volleyball Team**

**Working the Finals and reaching the semifinals**

**Zach Zarba '97 (political science) officiates his first NBA Finals**

After 11 years as an NBA official, former SUNY New Paltz men's basketball student-athlete Zach Zarba '97 finally earned the most prestigious assignment in the sport: working the NBA Finals.

Zarba worked Game Three of the 2014 NBA Finals between the two-time defending NBA champion Miami Heat and the San Antonio Spurs at Miami's American Airlines Arena on June 10. He worked alongside 21st-year official Monty McCutchen and 19th-year official Tony Brothers.

This marks the second first for Zarba during this year's

NBA Playoffs; he worked the first conference final contests of his career. He officiated Game Three of the Eastern Conference Finals between the Miami Heat and the Indiana Pacers and worked Game Six of the Western Conference Finals between the San Antonio Spurs and the Oklahoma City Thunder.

Zarba competed on the Hawks' men's basketball team from 1994-97, seeing action in 40 contests. He served as a team captain during his senior season.

**Men's volleyball team makes Hawk history**

The SUNY New Paltz men's volleyball team had a historic run in 2014, experiencing its most successful season in nearly 30 years after going 28-4 overall, winning the United Volleyball Conference (UVC) title, and advancing to the semifinal round of the NCAA Division III Tournament.

Coach Radu Petrus, who completed his eighth year at the helm of the program, was named the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) National Division III Coach of the Year, while a program-record three student-athletes picked up AVCA All-America honors. Tim Ferriter '16 and Christian Smith '16 were both named to the All-America First Team, while Steven Woessner '17 was selected to the All-America Second Team in addition to being named the AVCA Newcomer of the Year.

The Hawks – who were ranked as high as No. 1 in the AVCA's National Division III coaches' poll, an honor they held on to for three consecutive weeks – achieved a number of notable feats during the 2014 season. The Hawks beat then-ranked No. 1 and No. 2 Division III teams Springfield College and Rivier University on the same day (Feb. 14); achieved a 16-match winning streak midway through the season, which included a straight-set victory over eventual national champion Springfield; won their first-ever UVC title, losing just one set across the two-day conference tournament; and qualified for their first-ever NCAA Tournament, making it to the national semifinal, the furthest any New Paltz team has advanced in its history in NCAA's Division III.

Even more exciting is the prospect of matching 2014's success next season, since just two starters from New Paltz's 2014 team were seniors. The rest of the starting lineup consisted of a junior, three sophomores and a freshman.



Top: (left to right) Mario Collins, '97, Sacha Zarba, '99, Joe Zarba, Christiane Zarba, Zach Zarba, '97, Kyle Zarba, and Brian Safchik, '99. Bottom: SUNY New Paltz's 2014 men's volleyball team.

**New Paltz<sup>2</sup>**

**For one family, SUNY New Paltz spans two generations**

For Spanish and secondary education Professor Emeritus Lou Saraceno's three daughters, SUNY New Paltz was in their blood before any of them were old enough to apply to colleges.

But Lou and his wife, former SUNY New Paltz adjunct professor of Spanish Fran Ricciardi Saraceno, are both quick to point out that their daughters – Maria Saraceno '84, Gina Saraceno '88, and Francesca Saraceno '91 – each chose to go to SUNY New Paltz on their own.

"This is something we never imposed on them," says Lou. "It's something they decided."

Lou, who began teaching Spanish and secondary education at SUNY New Paltz in 1965 and chaired the foreign language department for four years, founded the College's first overseas program to Spain in 1969. In the process of launching and maintaining the program, as well as earning his doctorate in Madrid, he frequently traveled between the United States and Europe throughout his professional and academic life – and the girls, in turn, spent months at a time living in Spain and attending Spanish schools.

Their lifelong exposure to multilingualism and international travel compelled all of the Saraceno daughters to explore career opportunities in foreign languages, but it was Lou who influenced them to get teaching certifications and set them



Lou and Fran Saraceno in their Esopus home with daughters Gina (right) and Maria. Francesca not pictured.

down the path to becoming educators (Gina teaches French at FDR High School in Hyde Park, N.Y., Maria teaches Spanish at Monroe-Woodbury High School in Central Valley, N.Y., and Francesca taught in the Monroe-Woodbury district before moving to Italy 14 years ago to teach English).

Fran admits she and Lou did offer one incentive for the girls to attend SUNY New Paltz: In exchange for the girls staying local for college, they were each offered a junior year abroad in the countries where their languages of choice were spoken.

"So Maria went to Spain, Gina went to France, and Francesca went to Italy," says Fran.

The family's relationship with SUNY New Paltz has proven to be a lasting one: Lou remains

very engaged with the College in his emeritus role, and in May 2012 he presented a plaque about the history of the College's language instruction and faculty at the Old Main Rededication Ceremony. Fran still attends study clubs at SUNY New Paltz and belongs to the Faculty Wives and Women Club. The two also founded the Frances and Louis Saraceno Scholarship for Study Abroad, which provides funds for students to attend the summer program in Spain.

Maria says she still visits the College for theater performances and other events, and Gina "meanders the campus" every now and then when she visits her good friend who attends art classes at New Paltz.

## College celebrates faculty publications

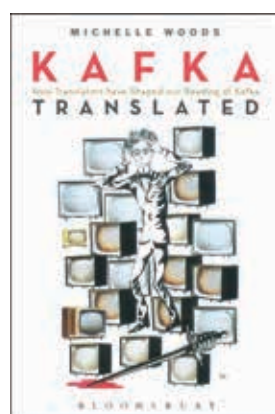
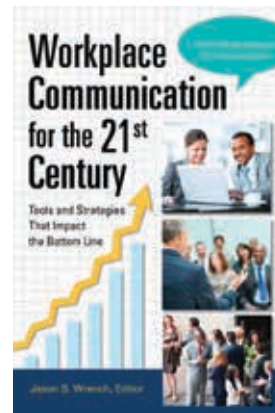
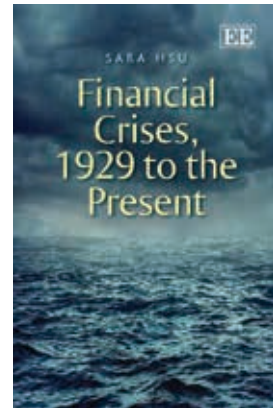
“Published author” is a title held by many members of the SUNY New Paltz faculty, and on March 25, dozens who published books in 2013 were honored at the Sojourner Truth Library’s first annual Celebration of Faculty Authors.

“Faculty publications are the heart of the academic library. We have, for a long time, displayed faculty books in our lobby, but such a significant milestone seems natural for a more social celebration, too,” says W. Mark Colvson, dean of Sojourner Truth Library. “The turnout and energy we experienced was beyond my most optimistic hopes. . . . I’d particularly like to recognize the support of members of the Friends of the Library Steering Committee whose help and ideas contributed significantly to the event’s success.”

From economics and poetry to sustainability and Buddhist architecture, a wide range of subject matter was represented among the books being celebrated at the event, which was attended by more than 75 people.

“In 2013 alone, New Paltz faculty published 28 books and one opera!” says Colvson. “We want to find ways to recognize other book authors: faculty whose books came out prior to 2013, and authors among our alumni. By the time we celebrate 2014 authors next year, I hope to be able to share more good news on those fronts.”

Covers from some of the faculty publications. Clockwise from top left: *America’s Covered Bridges: Practical Crossings – Nostalgic Icons*, by Ronald G. Knapp; *The Power of Art*, by Richard Lewis and Susan I. Lewis; *Mating Intelligence Unleashed: The Role of the Mind in Sex, Dating, and Love*, by Glenn Geher; *Workplace Communication for the 21st Century: Tools and Strategies That Impact the Bottom Line*, by Jason S. Wrench; *Kafka Translated: How Translators Have Shaped our Reading of Kafka*, by Michelle Woods; *Photo-Rapide*, by Francois Deschamps; *Seymour Hersh: Scoop Artist*, by Robert Miraldi; and, *Financial Crises, 1929 to the Present*, by Sara Hsu.



## Alumna pens “Augie Goes to College”

It’s been quite a journey for Augie, our campus’ very own goose-herding Border Collie who learned his craft at a farm in Virginia before heading to SUNY New Paltz in 2011.

Earlier this year, English instructor Rachel Rigolino ’93g brought Augie’s tale to life by authoring a children’s book about him, called “Augie Goes to College.”

“The idea for a book about Augie’s journey to New Paltz came after seeing him on stage in a campus production of the medieval Christmas play, ‘Fat Ram,’ in 2011,” says Rigolino. “His scenes with Professor Jim Schiffer (English) were so compelling that I went backstage afterwards to be introduced. I found Augie to be a delightful, people-centered dog. He embodies the true New Paltz spirit: friendly and laid back, but hard working and productive when it is time to get serious.”

Augie is specially trained to herd migrating Canada geese away from the campus grounds

without harming them, a cost-effective method of keeping the campus grounds and ponds cleaner.

When he’s not hard at work, Augie enjoys visiting students and staff members all over campus with his handler, Director of Environmental Health and Safety Mike Malloy, as well as giving back to the local community through the “Read to a Dog” program at Elting Memorial Library in New Paltz.

“Perhaps what I most admire about Augie is that, even after all the attention he has received, he remains approachable and is always ready to hang out with students, staff, and faculty,” says Rigolino.

“Augie Goes to College” is available for purchase at the campus book store. Proceeds from sales will help support the General Scholarship Fund at SUNY New Paltz, as well as the English Department. Pick up a copy today, order by phone at 845-257-3050, or visit [www.newpaltz.edu/augiebook](http://www.newpaltz.edu/augiebook).



Augie remembered what Miss Ray had told him. She said he was strong and brave. Augie barked a loud, deep bark.

The goose jumped high in the sky. Augie had scared him.

Illustrations from “Augie Goes to College” by illustrator Shaun Mridjenovic.

# Class Notes

**Address your class notes to:**  
Class Notes  
Office of Development and  
Alumni Relations  
1 Hawk Drive  
New Paltz, NY 12561-2443  
e-mail: alumni@newpaltz.edu  
fax: 845.257.3951

Correspondence, which may be edited for purposes of clarity or space, should include your full name, class year, major, address, home telephone, and e-mail address.

Pictured here are "mushroom stakes" used to form metal sheet in a process called "raising" in which a smith forms a bowl shape from a flat disk of metal using a stake and hammer. (photo by Jeff Lesperance, Fine Arts Building, SUNY New Paltz)

**49 Mary Wohlscheid**, now 85 years of age, writes, "I have been retired from Port Jervis School District for 26 years. I taught third grade in Sullivan Avenue school for 38 years—happily, I might add. I am still active in my church and area. Good luck to New Paltz and the students."

**50 Anthony Percoco** (Elementary Education Pre K-6, History) '50cas is a former veteran who attended New Paltz State Teachers College from 1946-50. Percoco was an educator in Ellenville for 38 years; served on the Ellenville, N.Y., Board of Education for 21 years; and was the chairman of the 43rd Seabee Battalion Reunion Committee for 20 years, which he co-partnered with his wife, Vicki. They have been operating T&V Tours for 27 years and Percoco is the proud grandfather of six children and great grandfather of two. He celebrated his 90th birthday in June and is still riding his bike, logging 15,000 miles since 2003.

**54 John "Jack" Wulff** (Elementary Education) has retired as a professor of education from Salisbury State University in Salisbury, Md. Wulff was recently recognized by the institution for his 50 years in teacher education as a professor at SUNY New Paltz, 1960-68; Florida Atlantic University, 1968-70; and Salisbury State University, 1972-2010. During his 50 years of service, Wulff was also an elementary teacher, elementary principal, and director of reading instruction for Montgomery County School System in Maryland. Wulff has since moved from teacher education to the area of finance, working as a day trader on the stock exchange and teaching courses in day and swing trading. He lost his wife in 2012, who was the school nurse at SUNY New Paltz from 1952 to 1964.

**58 Shirley (Andrew) Palazzo** (Elementary Education) and her husband, Michael, retired in 2004 to The Villages, Fla., where they have been enjoying the sunshine and golf. Palazzo sings with Village Voices, the largest senior chorus in the United States, as well as her church choir. In 2013, Michael won the Silver Medal in the 80+ age bracket in the Senior Games, playing pickleball. Palazzo and her husband have six children and 18 grandchildren.

**59 Philip Savino '62g** (Art Education), **Edmund Franchi**, **George Giuliani**, and **Robert Meyer** have been in regular contact with each other through phone calls, periodic get togethers, and newsletters since their 50th reunion. The four men were members of Phi Eta Sigma, and upon graduation, all went into

of us, including our spouses, Jeff, Ralph, and Fred. We are looking forward to another 'reunion' even though we live at opposite sides of the country."

**Barbara (Vogl) McClellan** (Secondary Education 7-12 Social Studies) taught for 35 years and worked as a resume counselor and manager at Fort Belvoir, Va., writing resumes for more than 2,000 soldiers. McClellan has since started her own resume writing business, Resumes for Success.

**68 Adelaide Palmer** (Psychology) is an avid rower and sailboat racer. She can be seen rowing her racing shell up and down the Hillsborough River in Tampa, Fla., and regularly racing sailboats. Palmer has been elected as the president of the Florida Women's Sailing Associa-

**"We had not all been together in 47 years! It was as if we had seen each other last week!" —Lila (Artz) Hauptman '66**

education. Their lifetime experiences include expertise as a college professor, baseball historian, published author, art curator, and school security specialist. Any other friends or former fraternity members from the classes of 1955-60 who would like to get in touch can call Savino at (518) 634-7468.

**66 Lila (Artz) Hauptman** (Elementary Education), **Jackie Blumenfeld Cozzolino**, and **Shelly Goldman Glantz** reunited in Santa Fe, N.M. Hauptman writes, "We had not all been together in 47 years! It was as if we had seen each other last week! A wonderful weekend was had by all

tion and is grateful to live where these activities can be done year round.

**69 Patricia (Musco) Streck** '71g (Art Education) and her husband, Ron, welcomed a third grandchild, William Anthony, on March 18. Musco has also expanded her fine arts and crafts shop on Etsy.com, called Pattistyle, to include family vintage items.

**70 Stephen Becker** (Psychology) has enjoyed a varied professional life over the years. Becker initially followed his interest in photography and worked on the East Coast and in



### From New Paltz to Japan to England

**William Borchert '10** lived locally when he was an undergraduate at SUNY New Paltz, commuting from his hometown of nearby Marlboro, N.Y. But for his graduate studies, Borchert decided it was time to conquer other continents.

After graduating from SUNY New Paltz in three years with three majors (biology, history, Asian studies) and three minors (business administration, evolutionary studies, and religious studies), Borchert attended Meiji University in Tokyo to study the Japanese government's response to pandemic influenza. From there, he went to the University of Tokyo, where he wrote a thesis comparing the effectiveness of treatments for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest and earned his master's degree in international health. The next leg of his journey will take place at England's Cambridge University, where Borchert is pursuing a Ph.D. in public health.

"I knew I wanted to study medicine in the future, so I didn't change my majors – I just added them," says Borchert. "When I graduated, I was a little bit more on the social science side as opposed to the biological science side. Science should never take a backseat, but I realized that medicine is not only science alone. Medicine is also an art."

He adds, "I'm glad I have that background. It was a good preparation."

Borchert already had some history with Tokyo, as he studied abroad at Sophia University while attending SUNY New Paltz. He also worked for the Center for International Programs as an undergrad.

Aside from his Japanese language abilities, Borchert says the skills he gained from his professors and from working in the Center for International Programs have gone a long way in his post-New Paltz endeavors. He says he always makes a point to visit his biology professors whenever he's stateside, and lists biology Professor Jeffrey Reinking and psychology Professor Glenn Geher among those who particularly influenced him.

"Behold the power of SUNY," says Borchert, who graduated from SUNY New Paltz debt-free thanks to federal grants and staying close to home. "I'm very glad I went to a SUNY."

(top) William Borchert '10 (far right) graduating from University of Tokyo

California. Drawing on his physics studies from SUNY New Paltz, he then landed a job in outside sales of ophthalmic supplies, where he advanced into a sales management position and later started his own business. Becker also drew on his computer science electives from college and started a computer consulting business, where he taught himself programming and developed custom software. Afterwards, he began writing for computer publications; teaching computer science; working as a guest lecturer on cruise ships; and is now a travel consultant.

**James Hammond '70g** (Secondary Education 7-12 Social Studies) was elected to the East Carolina University (ECU) Alumni Association's Board of Directors. Hammond, a 1966 graduate of ECU, retired after 29 years of teaching at Roy C. Ketcham High School in Wappingers Falls, N.Y. He also served on the Dutchess County Legislature, and is a recipient of the Marist College President's Award for community service and an honorary doctorate from Mount Saint Mary College.

**Brahim Zogby** (English) was elected to his second two-year term as a member of the Common Council in the City of Oneida, N.Y.

**71 Randi (Sherman) Burton** (Psychology) retired after a career as a school psychologist and educational supervisor for the State of New Jersey. Burton moved to the Space Coast of Florida where she is now a psychology instructor. "I love Florida and the relaxed beachfront community where I reside," Burton wrote. "I watch dolphins from my oceanfront balcony. Attending SUNY New Paltz, however, was the best time in my life!"

**72 Steven Cahn** (English) is finishing his latest novel

about a SUNY New Paltz student who not only flunked out of school, but was also thrown out for a wild prank, and went on to become a doctor after finally graduating.

**Sharon Chiaferi** (Philosophy) went to Canada to study Eastern philosophy and earned degrees in law and creative writing. Her stories and poetry have been published in a variety of Canadian and American magazines and journals. Chiaferi is now teaching online writing classes for a number of colleges and has developed online English and creative writing courses. She lives in Northern New Mexico.

**Lee Heller** (Anthropology) was promoted to director of business development at the Association Services of Florida, where he began working in 2001. Heller has had success in managing marinas, condos, hotels, and associations ranging from 30 to more than 1,050 units. He is actively seeking continued education through the Community Associations Institute and has achieved his certified manager of community associations and association management specialist designations.

**Sanford Levy** (Psychology, Elementary N-6) **'76g** (Elementary N-6) purchased his Freer Family stone house in 1973, next to Locust Lawn Estate in Gardiner, N.Y., which is now pictured in the new book "A Simpler Way of Life" by Norfleet Press. He has held shows of local 19th century artists, Julia Dillon and Joseph Tubby, at the Friends of Historic Kingston Gallery and is presently writing about the art collection at Mohonk Mountain House.

**Nancy Marino** (Spanish) was named university distinguished professor at Michigan State University, where she has been a

member of the faculty since 1993. Marino is the author of eight books and numerous articles on the literature and history of medieval and early renaissance Spain.

**73 John Hornbeck** (Economics) retired on June 30, 2013, after serving 40 years as an association executive. Hornbeck also served as the president and chief executive officer of the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce in Norfolk, Va., for the past 25 years.

**Richard Morgan** (Physics) **'80cas** (Business) has a new book titled "Hebrew Lessons – Poems From My Jewish Heart," his fourth book of poetry. The book addresses being human, spirituality, the Bible, and God. He has also lunched, unforgettably, with Huston Smith, the renowned author of "The World's Religions: A Guide to Our Wisdom Traditions." Morgan has written for 50 years and has published a trilogy of poetry books including "I Am Sea Glass: A Collection of Poetic Pieces," "Sea Glass People: Portraits

third novel, "Project Witchflight," an intense tale of kidnapping, terror and treachery, as one man prevents a top military project for revenge and his own hidden ambitions, and another is doggedly determined to stop him before time runs out. His second novel was "Flying Jenny," and his first novel, "Round the Bend Cafe," was published in early 2011.

**76 Jann Armantrout** (Political Science) retired on May 1 as diocesan life-issues coordinator in the Catholic Diocese of Rochester after 14 years of informing and engaging the community on life issues. A Buffalo native, she moved to Rochester in 1985 and worked extensively with people with developmental disabilities before becoming a coordinator in 2000. An expert on end-of-life issues, she attended a Vatican conference in 2004 that focused on patients in a persistent vegetative state, and became certified in bioethical research by the National Catholic Bioethics Center two years later. Armantrout also

**"I love Florida and the relaxed beachfront community where I reside. I watch dolphins from my oceanfront balcony. Attending SUNY New Paltz, however, was the best time in my life!"—Randi (Sherman) Burton '71**

in Words and Watercolors," and "Sea Glass Soul: Invisible Colors." Each book combines his poetry with paintings by his wife, artist Pat Morgan.

**74 Joseph Warnock** '74 has recently published his

received the Leo Holmsten Human Life Award in 2007, and in 2010 she was named to the Empire State Stem Cell Research Board. Armantrout now teaches bioethics at St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry in Pittsford. Her other activities include serving on the

diocesan Public Policy Committee and supporting Project Rachel, a ministry for people suffering from the effects of abortion.

**Lawrence Berglas** (English) is the author of "Civil Law in America: A Minimalist Law Book," written for artists, students, teachers, and anyone interested in the role law plays in life and work, and anyone seeking a simple approach to legal issues in less than 60 brief pages. Berglas, a writer, teacher, musician, and practicing attorney with more than 20 years of multidisciplinary experience in law, teaches arts and entertainment law and finance for the arts at Purchase College in Purchase, N.Y.

**78 Steven Bronstein** (Biology) had his blacksmithing work of an iron menorah selected to appear on an official U.S. Postal Service Hanukkah stamp. Bronstein worked at Shelburne Museum from 1980-85 before deciding to go into blacksmithing for himself. Some of his works can be found in collections such as the Jewish Museum in New York.

**Scott Siegel** (Biology), having held a number of business development positions within the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries, is now executive-in-residence for the New York University Office of Industrial Liaison and Technology Transfer and managing director for Milestone Life Sciences. Siegel also spoke at the SUNY New Paltz campus on April 1 on the subject of "Adventures in biotechnology: reflections on the opportunities and challenges in medical research, business and entrepreneurship."

**Robert Sommer '78g** (English) will have his second novel, "A Great Fullness," published in December by Aqueous Books. "With cinematic clarity and pace," writes

poet David Ray, "A Great Fullness takes us inside a family caught in turmoil, as the drama of their lives reflects our troubled society and its broken capacity for joy." Sixties icon Mason Williams described Sommer's first novel, "Where the Wind Blew" (2008), as "a story of the past and an allegory of the present." Sommer's current work-in-progress is a memoir titled "Losing Francis: One Family's Journey through a Decade of American War." Excerpts have appeared in "Rathalla Review," "New Plains Review," and "The Whirlybird Anthology of Kansas City Writers." He and his wife, Heather, live in Overland Park, Kan.

**79 Robert Bolebruch** (Economics) has been a long-time volunteer with the Western Property Owner's Association (WPOA), the Garden City Athletic Association (GCAA), and the Garden City Scholarship Committee. He has been a member of the WPOA since 1995, serving as director for 10 years and president for two years, and returned to the WPOA Board of Directors to serve as membership chairman. Bolebruch also served on the Garden City High School Scholarship Committee as director for nine years and as president for three years. Bolebruch has coached boys' basketball, boys' baseball, and girls' softball teams; served as director of the Garden City Athletic Association for 14 years; established the GCAA Field Hockey Clinic; and was president of the GCAA Softball League. Prior to becoming a village trustee in April 2013, he was appointed as a member of the Village Board of Commissioners of Cultural and Recreational Affairs.

**Joan Mansfield** (Communication Studies) is membership chair for Women in Development of Northeastern New York, promot-

ing women in the fields of development, organizational advancement, and other related areas.

**Larry Yando** (Theatre Arts) was listed in Today's Chicago Woman magazine as Man of the Month for December 2013 for the character he portrays at the Goodman Theatre, Ebenezer Scrooge. Yando has played Scrooge since 2007 and earned an MFA from DePaul Theatre School.

**80 Rick Alfandre** (Communication Studies) hosted a January 2014 tour of Alfandre Architecture's new green project, his company-owned office building at 231 Main Street in New Paltz. During the event, hosted by the New Paltz Regional Chamber of Commerce, Rick discussed the overall project goals of creating healthy and productive spaces and the building's energy efficiency and water efficiency goals. This location will serve as new home of Alfandre Architecture. For more information, visit <http://www.alfandre.com>.

**Laura (Green) Wickwar** (Anthropology) '80g and her husband, **Daniel Wickwar '75** (Mathematics) celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on Aug. 11, 2014. Laura and Daniel met at a party of a mutual SUNY New Paltz friend and married eight months later. They have one daughter, Melanie, and live in Raleigh, N.C. Wickmar wrote, "We are so blessed to be able to celebrate 30 years of marriage and look forward to another 30 years."

**81 Henry McKinnon '81g** (Sociology) wrote, "What wonderful memories! I was a young, vibrant kid from New York City and the beautiful Catskill Mountains were a breath of fresh air. Dubois, Deyo, Shango, Scudder Hall. Summer school, parties,

theatre, Purple Lounge, jazz concerts, sports. Too much to tell or forget. Thank you, God bless, and hopefully now that I'm retired, I can come up there sometime in the fall. So beautiful up there during this season."

**82 Michael Lambert** (Geography) joined the Westchester office of Marcus & Millichap Capital Corporation, the largest national brokerage firm specializing in real estate investments, as an originator. Lambert is responsible for sourcing, underwriting, and obtaining financing for all asset classes of commercial real estate. Previously, Lambert served as a mortgage officer with Community Preservation Corporation, vice president and lending officer with Alma Bank, and correspondent director with Swiss Bank Capital Partners.

**Michael Manspeizer** (Political Science) is program/project manager for Cisco Systems. He is married with two daughters and lives in Miller Place, N.Y. Manspeizer still swims several days a week and volunteers as an elected school board trustee for the Miller Place Union Free School District.

**83 Bonnie Wright** (Liberal Arts, Speech Communication: Radio/TV) is the director of business development at Focus Media, one of the fastest-growing public relations and advertising agencies in the country, where she oversees key aspects of the firm's business operations. After earning her degree at SUNY New Paltz, she later went on to launch Wright Communications, which she successfully operated until 2005. Most recently, she worked with the American Cancer Society as its community executive director and director of distinguished events.

**Marlene Wiedenbaum '83g** (N-6: Humanistic Education) had an exhibition of her pastel paintings at the Dacia Gallery in New York City in April.

**84 Jeffrey Feller** (Sociology) celebrated his ninth year post-liver transplant this past March and continues to pursue an acting career. He is currently attending class in Scene Study at H.B. Studio, is rehearsing for an adaptation of a Robert Lewis story, "It's a Sin to Tell a

Lie," and will start shooting this summer for his first film, "Numbers A Gangster's Child." Feller is also on the advisory board for the Chelton Loft, a clubhouse program serving the needs of the mentally challenged, and works part time with Pan American Photo at Citi Field.

**86 Anne Caldwell-Fain** (Sociology, Psychology) is the acting commissioner for the Orange County Department of Social Services. Caldwell has 27 years

## Alum helps launch online college advisement tool

**Fritz Grupe '61** (Secondary Education 7-12, Biology) '69g (Education), professor emeritus in information systems at the University of Nevada, Reno, is the project director for a Small Business Innovation Research grant of \$691,000 from the National Science Foundation.

Previously funded for \$150,000 in Phase I of the project, called MyCCMajors, Grupe is developing an improved advisement tool for two-year colleges. A prototype built in Phase I was given excellent reviews by both students and advisors.

MyCCMajors computerizes knowledge held by academic advisors at two-year colleges when they advise students seeking an appropriate course of study, and emulates the interviews conducted by experienced advisors at two-year colleges. The research and development effort goes beyond suggesting a major by making recommendations specific to individual campuses and making effective matches based on a student's background, achievements and interests.

The project can reduce the high percentage of students who drop out without a degree and with a large debt. It also relieves some of the pressure advisors encounter because of increasing numbers of students needing help.

Richard Feller, the president of the National Career Development Association, called the approach "a potential game changer" in the career advisement area. The project proposal received support from three state boards for community colleges, a private foundation, and *U.S. News and World Report*.

Prior to this project, Grupe created the four-year college-oriented advisement program MyMajors which has helped more than 300,000 students choose their majors in the past year. The website, [www.mymajors.com](http://www.mymajors.com), was visited 4.5 million times last year and is featured on more than 2,000 high school and college advisement websites.





of experience in the field of human services, starting with the Orange County Department of Social Services (DSS) as a social welfare examiner and rising through the ranks to the position of deputy commissioner in 2006. She began her career with DSS as a social welfare examiner, prior to her entrance into the Human Services division where she served as a case worker, case supervisor, senior supervisor, director, and most recently, deputy

that has brought him consistent national recognition for leadership, training, coaching, recruiting, hiring, developing, and retaining sales talent.

**88 Matthew Grant** (Political Science) was promoted to vice president of commercial lending at Ocean City Home Bank, where he started in 2006. Grant began his banking career at Bank of New York as a management

ish teacher at Poughkeepsie City School District and seven years as a high school equivalency (GED) instructor prior to that.

**89 Leonard Boccia** (Business Administration) made the *Wall Street Journal* "Barron's Top Financial Advisors" list in 2013, a significant achievement in the financial industry. Boccia was ranked one of the top 10 advisors from Wells Fargo in the country and is the only Wells Fargo advisor from New York State represented on the list. This marks the fourth time in the past five years Boccia has made the list. See profile, page 18.

**Jenna Freedman** (Theatre Arts), a Barnard College zine librarian and experienced zinester, co-led a workshop and lecture at SUNY New Paltz titled "Make Your Own Culture: Who Zine Creators Are, Why They Do What They Do and Why It Matters" on Feb. 19, 2014. Zines are limited run, self-published works that combine original and appropriated text and images.

**Michael "Zev" Sonnenstein** (Music) has been a Cantor for more than 20 years serving the Jewish community in New York, New Jersey, and most recently in Ormond Beach, Fla. He recently completed his studies, receiving Rabbinic ordination on Jan. 4, 2014, and is now serving a new congregation in Palm Coast, Fla.

**90g Angela Robinson** (7-12: English) was recently selected as one of three recipients of the National Board for Certified Counselor's 2013 Global Career Development Facilitator (GCDF) scholarship. Robinson will receive \$5,000 to support her counseling education and to recognize her commitment to providing career counseling and guidance. As a teacher, she obtained the GCDF credential in 2007 in order

to provide meaningful assistance to students in preparation for life after high school. Robinson is pursuing a master's degree in secondary school counseling at Citadel Graduate College.

**91 Erike Alvarez-Lehtinen** (Psychology), consultant at WISE Education Funding in Hudson, N.Y., has expanded his financial management practice to include a college financial planning service. WISE Education Funding is designed to help parents send their children to college "without losing their minds or going broke," he writes.

**Maureen Mooney** (Graphic Design) and **James MacNaughton '90** (Political Science, Sociology) announce the birth of their son, Braedon James (10 pounds, 5 ounces, 22 inches long), on Nov. 17, 2013.

**92 Dimitri Saliani** (History) taught history for 10 years before serving in administration for the past seven. He is currently principal of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, a high-performing high school in New York City. He writes, "I still have the passion for history that was ignited by my time at SUNY New Paltz, and I owe a great deal to the demanding yet encouraging nature that Professor Zelbert Moore fostered in his classroom. He was truly a unique professor during my tenure and set me on my path to education where I have been able to make an impact on the youth of New York City."

**Dawn Meyerski '92g** (Pre-K-6 Early Child) is executive director of Mount Kisco Child Care Center (MKCCC), where she previously held the position of program director. Meyerski began her career with MKCCC in 1983, when she was head teacher for the preschool program. She left in 1988 to

become lead teacher for the Astor Early Childhood Programs/Head Start in Poughkeepsie and in 1996 was named assistant director/teacher at the Precious People Early Learning Center in Westfield, N.J. Meyerski returned to Mount Kisco Child Care Center in 1998 as the program director and has held this position for the last 15 years.

**Patricia Stanley '92g** (Special Education) was named the new head of school at the Mountain School of Winhall in July. Previously, Stanley was the head of lower school at Indian Mountain School in Lakeville, Conn., since 2006. She began her 20 years of teaching as an English teacher, drama director, skiing and tennis coach, and dorm head at Marvelwood School. She joined the Town Hill School in Lakeville, Conn., in 1998 as a part-time reading and language specialist and consultant. Stanley is a lifelong skier, was a volunteer ski patroller at Mohawk Mountain in Connecticut, and now occasionally teaches skiing. She is a singer/performer and an avid road cyclist.

**93 Lisa Reece** (Biology) was one of 50 educators from across the country selected to spend a week in Washington, D.C., at the Siemens STEM Institute learning how to integrate innovative STEM techniques into her classroom. Reece collaborated with educators from both urban and rural areas across middle and high school grade levels in an effort to bring new and innovative digital tools into the classroom that will enhance STEM teaching and learning.

**94g Joan Barker** (Photography), adjunct art lecturer at SUNY New Paltz, received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching for 2013-2014, the inaugural year for this award. Barker has taught

in the College's photography program since 1994. An award-winning photographer, her work has been exhibited in galleries and museums around the country and overseas. Her one-person shows include OK Harris in New York City and Friends of Photography in San Francisco. Internationally, Barker's work has been included in exhibits at the Photographers Gallery in London, Photozoos in Athens, and the Internationale Fotoage Herten in Germany. Her photographs are also included in numerous collections such as the Center for Creative Photography in Tucson, Ariz., and the New York Public Library in New York City. She is the recipient of a New York Foundation for the Arts Artists Fellowship, the *Village Voice* Photography Grant, and two Center for Photography at Woodstock Fellowships.

**95 Jennifer (Marino) Rader** (English) and her husband, Chris, welcomed their baby boy, Trenton Lloyd, on Jan. 31. Trenton weighed in at 6 pounds and measured 19 inches long.

**Penny Freel '95g** (English Literature) was honored by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences as its Teacher of the Year for 2013-14. Hired at SUNY New Paltz as a full-time lecturer in 2006, Freel has taught numerous sections of ESL/SWW Composition 1 and 2 and also teaches courses in literature. In 1995 she was hired as a "native English speaker" by the University of the Sacred Heart, an all-female Catholic college in Tokyo, and taught everything from Composition to Film Studies to Public Speaking. Freel has presented papers at the Annual Convention on College Composition and Communication; the SUNY Council on Writing; and the Council on Basic Writing. She is a regular participant in the SUNY

## "Dubois, Deyo, Shango, Scudder Hall. Summer school, parties, theatre, Purple Lounge, jazz concerts, sports. Too much to tell or forget."

—Henry Mckinnon '81g

commissioner. Over the years, she has been an instrumental leader within the department, chiefly responsible for child welfare and adult protective services provided by DSS.

**Bret Sigillo** (Computer Science) authored his first book, "The Beach Book: Eleuthera, Bahamas Edition," self-published under the Beach Book, LLC, a company he founded. The book is a comprehensive guide of all of Eleuthera's 135 beaches, including maps, directions, and stunning photographs.

**87 Alan Wolin** (Business Administration) is director of national accounts at Guaranteed Returns, the founder of the pharmaceutical returns industry. Previously, Wolin managed a large team of ophthalmology representatives in the Northeast region at Merck and was a specialty district sales manager for Pfizer. Wolin is a highly successful sales manager with experience in sales leadership

trainee, and over a 12-year period, ascended to the position of assistant vice president. Grant is also a graduate of the American Bankers' Association's Commercial Lending School at Southern Methodist University.

**Lorna Tychostup** (Psychology) is the subject of the documentary "Bordering On Treason" that chronicles her barrier-breaking journey to Iraq. She speaks on the importance of role models, the conscious art of role modeling, challenges, and how to overcome them while asking, "What is it in us that forces us to break the barriers to get what we want, drives and inspires us?" The documentary has been covered in the press, including with an appearance by Tychostup on Fox News. She spoke to the SUNY New Paltz campus community during the spring 2014 semester.

**Kim (Fremgen) Salinovich '88g** (N-9: Spanish) retired in June 2011 after 25 years as a Span-



### Recent theatre alumni work for Cirque Du Soleil

Two recent graduates of the SUNY New Paltz School of Fine and Performing Arts have landed positions with the largest theatrical producer in the world – Cirque Du Soleil.

Theatre arts majors Kimmy Kossman '12 and Jena Goldberg '13, who both concentrated in costume design, were hired as dressers for "Amaluna," the latest Cirque Du Soleil touring production.

"I found this opportunity and applied, and it turns out that another New Paltz alum was working for the company I applied through, and she was a wonderful help," says Kossman. "[Goldberg and I] both received an invitation to join the wonderful crew, and have since been running the shows."

Kossman and Goldberg joined the crew for the show's run at Citi Field in New York City from March to May 2014, and were then invited to work the next leg of the tour at the Boston Marine Industrial Park.

"The two of us are representing New Paltz with great pride, having been told multiple times that we are the most talented dressers they have had in a while," says Kossman. "The education we received while attending New Paltz has been absolutely priceless. Being supported and encouraged by our theatre teachers, like Andrea Varga, has been an amazing basis to start our careers."

Kossman says she is eager to connect with other students who may be curious about Cirque Du Soleil or the theater world in general.

"I can't begin to explain how wonderful my time at New Paltz was, and what a great pleasure it's been to see that there are a lot of people in my industry who say, 'Oh, my god, I went to New Paltz, too!'" says Kossman.

Kimmy Kossman '12 (bottom left) and Jena Goldberg '13 (theatre arts, top right and bottom right) were hired as dressers in the wardrobe department of Cirque Du Soleil's latest touring production, "Amaluna."



New Paltz Composition Program Retreat. Her published articles on composition pedagogy have appeared in print and online in the *Journal of Basic Writing* and *Basic Writing E-Journal*.

**98 Jason Gehlert** (Communication Media) follows his highly successful jungle zombie novel "Contagion" and his short story collection "Demon Revolver" with "Jeremiah Black," a full-length novel that many are calling his "best effort to date." Gehlert is also the author of the acclaimed "Europa" science fiction series, blending sci-fi and horror into what Countgore.com calls a "killer series." His early werewolf series, "Quiver," is being adapted for feature film, as is his work "The Woodsman," and he is penning a shark novel and a short story collection.

**99 Sandra Cassese** (Nursing) is the vice president of oncology services at Health Quest and was named secretary of the national board of directors for the American Cancer Society Action Network. Cassese has been a registered nurse since 1979 and has helped the New York State Department of Health and the American Cancer Society develop a training program and curriculum to teach nurses clinical breast examination skills, among many other achievements. In 2002, Cassese became the first oncology service line administrator at Vassar Brothers Medical Center. Cassese was also recently named president-elect of the American Cancer Society Eastern Division Board of Directors for 2015.

**Erik Gliedman** (Anthropology) published his second year in his photo series "The Ballet Project." The photo project will span several years and feature ballet poses at some of the most beautiful locations around the Hudson Valley and

Catskills region. Gliedman wrote, "My goal was to create a fantasy world but retain the identity of the location. I was inspired to start this project because my daughters study ballet, and I wanted to create images that depicted them in an almost story book scene so the rest of the world could see the vision I have of them."

**Michael Kellner** (Economics) and his wife, Jean, welcomed their daughter, Quinn Agnes, on Oct. 7, 2013. Quinn was born at 8 pounds, 9 ounces and 21.5 inches long.

**Rebecca Mackey** (Women's Studies 1-6) '08 (History) was named the director of operations at Historic Huguenot Street, the first in the museum's history, where she began her career as director of visitor services in 2008. As the director of operations, she has assumed responsibility for the day-to-day management of the 120-year-old institution and oversees the implementation of an expanded array of public programs and guest services.

**00 Naomi (Gabay) Gabay-Schwab** (Communication Media) and her husband, Andrew Schwab, welcomed their daughter, Liat Maya, on Nov. 28, 2013.

**Erica (Gilberg) Gendler** (Communication Studies) is now the owner of License 2 Grill in Thornwood, N.Y., a restaurant with a chef-created menu including salads, sandwiches, burgers, wings, and hot dogs, with plans to add more nutritious options and focus on children. Gendler, who has been working in the food service industry since age 18, is also in the process of creating breakfast and lunch catering menus for local businesses, as well as family meal deals for dinners to eat at home. Realizing that many parents don't have the time to prepare a family

meal, Gendler says she wants to help them by providing a service for commuters who can place an order by 4 p.m. and have it ready and waiting at the station as they exit the train.

**Rebecca Hasbrouck '04g** (Accounting) received the School of Business Alumnus of the Year honor during the College's spring 2014 awards event. Hasbrouck has been with the accounting firm of Vanacore, DeBenedictus, Di-Govanni & Weddell, LLC for 11 years and works out of the Town of Wallkill office. Hasbrouck earned her CPA license in 2006, CITP in 2011, and CGMA in 2012, and was promoted to manager that same year. She belongs to the Young CPAs, the New York State Society of CPAs' Mid-Hudson Chapter, Hudson Valley Young Professionals, and the American Institute of CPAs. Hasbrouck also served as an adjunct professor of accounting at SUNY New Paltz and Marist College.

**Scott St. George** (English) '07g (Adolescence Education: English), along with his wife, Victoria, created the first and only patented plush talking recordable cupcake to help their child, and other children with speech and hearing disabilities, learn more easily. He wrote, "Since then we have discovered a lot of different uses for the talking cupcake. Many friends and family wanted one for their own creative uses, sending 'Get well,' 'Good luck,' and 'Congratulations' messages to those they know. Local teachers are using the talking cupcake in their special education classes as a sensory tool."

**Cheryl Yanek** (English) is a librarian and social media specialist at Catalyst, a women's nonprofit organization, and the race director of the Black Rock City 50k Ultramarathon. Yanek also recently won and

placed in several ultramarathons, including second USATF woman in the USATF 24 Hour National Championships.

**01 Jason Bryden** (Communication: Public Relations) received the 2013 Washington College Sho'men Club Outstanding Service Award on Feb. 21, 2013, in Chestertown, Md. and was presented with the 10-Year ECAC-SIDA Service Award on June 6, 2013, in Manchester, N.H.

**02 Hilary Niederhauser** (Biology) and **Joseph Kusmierski '01** (Art Education) married on July 6, 2013, at Salem Golf Club in North Salem, N.Y. The two met at a college mixer at SUNY New Paltz during Niederhauser's freshman year, but went different directions after graduation. Eight years later, the couple met for a round of golf and took their courtship more seriously. Many former SUNY New Paltz graduates attended their wedding, including aunts, cousins, siblings, and friends. Niederhauser and Kusmierski live in Westchester County, N.Y., where Niederhauser practices optometry at the Lenscrafters in Woodbury Commons, and Kusmierski works in sales and client development for Daniel Demarco & Associates in Amityville, N.Y.

**03 Wendy (Friedman) Spiriti** (Journalism) and her husband, Mike, announced the arrival of their son, Logan Maddox, on Sept. 30, 2013.

**04 Jillian Chertok** (Journalism) was appointed vice president of media relations at New York City-based public relations firm the McCarthy Group in January.

**Francesca (Triptodi) Givlekian** (Elementary Education Pre K-6 English) and her husband, Pat,

announced the arrival of their son, Matteo, on Jan. 26. Matteo weighed in at 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 inches long.

**Shirley (Hoffman) Warren** (Music) had a new piece performed by Madera Vox during the group's musical performance on Feb. 27 at SUNY New Paltz's McKenna Theatre.

**05 Jessica Pasko** (Journalism) has, after nearly a decade in print media, moved into television news as digital content director for KION, a CBS affiliate in California's Monterey Bay area.

**“Local teachers are using the talking cupcake in their special education classes as a sensory tool.”**  
—Scott St. George '07g

**Jacquelyn Rivas** (Biology) and her husband, Bittman, announced the birth of their daughter, Abigail, on April 27, 2013. Abigail weighed in at 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20.25 inches long.

**06 Jonathan Engel** (History) visited campus Feb. 12 to speak to students as part of a History Majors Career Panel hosted by the History Department and the History Club. Alumni spoke about their backgrounds and how they entered their chosen professions, and also gave advice to history majors just beginning their career journeys.

**Christina Freise** (Communication Disorders) has been appointed to the Communication Disorders

clinical faculty at Augustana College in Rock Island, Ill. In addition to serving as a clinical supervisor, she serves as an instructor teaching courses in phonetics. Freise holds a Master's degree in speech-language pathology from Columbia University.

**Natalie Iovino-Schoenfeld** (Print-making) worked in Long Island, N.Y., as a graphic artist for a clothing company and a painter and then, at the urging of her husband, Adam, enrolled in the esthetics program at the New York Institute of Beauty. Since earning her esthetics license, she has become manager of R.J. West, a luxury boutique spa in Huntington, N.Y.

ment affairs for the Dental Hygienists Association of the State of New York (DHASNY) for 2014. She is a full-time member of the faculty in the Dental Hygiene Program at Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC) in Troy. Rogers earned an associate's degree in applied science in dental hygiene from HVCC and is completing her master's degree in dental hygiene at Idaho State University. She also is a member of DHASNY's Professional Practice and Education Committee and a member of the New York State Public Health Association.

**07 Matthew Hughes** (Political Science) is the founder and managing partner of Hughes-Darus Research Associates, a full-service research and polling firm providing services to state and local political campaigns.

**Jennifer (Torres) Palomino** (English) and her husband, Mark, announced the arrival of their son, Leon Alexander Palomino, on March 28.

**08 Elizabeth (Ruggiero) DeKams** (Communication Disorders) and **John DeKams '08** (Childhood Education 1-6), both SUNY New Paltz athletes, began dating in May 2008, became engaged in June 2013, and are planning their December 2014 wedding. Their wedding party will consist of 10 SUNY New Paltz graduates and more than 40 of their SUNY New Paltz teammates and friends will be in attendance. Elizabeth currently works as a practice manager for the North Shore-LIJ Health System in Manhasset, N.Y. John is a sixth grade science teacher with the New York City Department of Education at P.S./M.S. 206 in East Harlem, N.Y. They currently live in Astoria, N.Y. with their beagle, Cooper. They both earned their master's degrees after SUNY New Paltz.

**Christine Rogers** (Psychology) was re-elected vice president of govern-

## Cutting through the red tape in New York City

After graduating from SUNY New Paltz, Amber Greene '03 wasted no time putting her public relations education to work. Now, 11 years into her career, she's joined the latest incarnation of New York City government as policy director in the Office of Public Advocate.

“ Oftentimes, policy is done in a vacuum,” says Greene. **“In my role, we try to look for those issues that don't get attention ... and try to just address the issue going on, and not make it political.”**

As policy director under newly elected public advocate Letitia “Tish” James (who is second in line to the mayor), Greene's office exists as a watchdog to help the citizens of New York City “cut through the nonsense and red tape” when it comes to addressing “failures in service” on behalf of city government. These issues run the gamut from neglected public housing facilities to overcrowded schools infested with mold and rats.

What drew her most to James, Greene says, was her shared commitment to many of the issues she felt strongly about – particularly affordable housing, which Greene was intensely interested in while pursuing her master's degree in public policy from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs (which she completed in 2012).

“My whole goal of going to grad school was to figure out how to create affordable housing and reduce homelessness,” says Greene. “I was really looking to get involved with the work (James) was doing. ... Her involvement to try to reduce the homeless population in New York City prompted me to really want to work for her.”



Greene's first job after New Paltz was in Newark, N.J., doing environmental remediation for a brownfields project. She left that position to join the staff of the New York State Assembly as the public affairs coordinator for then-Assemblyman Richard Brodsky.

Greene then spent six years in city government working for the New York City Office of Emergency Management, where she directed the Ready New York campaign “to ensure the safety and preparedness of all New Yorkers” and initiated several disaster preparedness programs that are still functioning today.

“It was the best job,” says Greene. “You wouldn't think disasters could be something that makes you want to go to work, but every day was different.”

Following graduate school, Greene worked in Washington, D.C., as a communication consultant on educational policy, where she educated clients (including the Gates Foundation and other large philanthropic entities) on how to improve public education opportunities worldwide.

Upon returning to New York from Washington, Greene seized an opportunity to meet then-city mayoral candidate Bill Thompson when he spoke at her church in Harlem. She struck up a conversation with him, and a few months

later, was offered a job on his campaign as policy director.

When Thompson's campaign ended, Greene pursued the policy director position in James' office.

Greene says SUNY New Paltz prepared her immensely for her career, from being a spokesperson to **“being mindful of trying to speak in sound bites” to “knowing the mic is always on.”** **Extracurricular activities like the campus TV and radio stations taught her about the demands of media.**

“In terms of my ability to do public speaking, that's something I learned at New Paltz by giving presentations in front of the class,” says Greene. Her theories of persuasion course, particularly, taught her how to “bring people where you want them to be” through her words.

Greene says the late Professor Margaret Wade Lewis (Black Studies) “was so instrumental in learning about my heritage as an African-American woman.” She also credits all the help she's received over the years from Professor Patricia Sullivan, who she remains in touch with today.

“She is still my mentor,” says Greene of Sullivan. “She's gone above and beyond, and I really value her friendship and advice.”

Greene sees her continued engagement with SUNY New Paltz simply as a way to return the favor for all the help and advice she was given when she was a student. **She's helping plan the First World Reunion, serving on the alumni steering committee for the May 1-3, 2015 event.**

“People have always helped me, so I believe in paying it forward,” says Greene. “It doesn't involve anything but time and commitment for me. That is what was given to me, so I feel it's important to do that.”

**David Gasparri** (Accounting) was promoted to senior accountant at Vanacore, DeBenedictus, DiGiovanni & Weddell, LLP. Gasparri has been with the firm since 2009 and works in the Dutchess County office in the client service department.

**Jesse LaFlair** (Sculpture) and his friend Cory DeMeyers, both parkour/freerunning professional athletes and stuntmen, announced on May 12 that they will embark on a worldwide tour in fall 2014 to promote their feature length documentary, "From Here to There." The film highlights the duo, who are two of the world's most accomplished freerunners, during their very successful 2013 International

**Matthew Laudicina** (History) visited campus on Feb. 12 to speak to students as part of a History Majors Career Panel hosted by the History Department and the History Club.

**Jacquelyn (Schmidt) Osmanaj** (Mathematics) attained a secondary mathematics teacher position in September 2013 in the Mount Pleasant School District in Westchester, N.Y. Prior to that, she worked as a mathematics teacher in the Spotsylvania County School District in Virginia for two years. She and Benard Osmanaj married in 2008 in Tirana, Albania.

**Elizabeth (Trincellito) Stark '11g** (Nursing) and her husband, Jason,

President's Office and government officials, chambers of commerce, and other key business and community organizations. In addition, he provides critical support for the college's participation in Gov. Andrew Cuomo's new Start-Up NY initiative. Winters resides in Pleasant Valley with his wife, **Alex (McCarroll) Winters '09** (Communication).

**09 Michael Francese** (Psychology) was named supported employment coordinator at the Resource Center for Accessible Living, tasked with expanding employment-related services for people with disabilities, assisting in their search for independence. Francese produces video resumes for local businesses looking for employment candidates, helps individuals find and maintain employment, and acts as an advocate and counselor program participants. Previously, Francese held a similar position at United Cerebral Palsy of Ulster County and was also a golf course superintendent and general manager. Prior to his golf career, he was in charge of Dutchess Stadium. Francese has also been a wedding and party DJ for more than 22 years.

**Maribeth Greer** (Childhood Education 1-6) and Zebadiah Pagerie recently became engaged in Ireland.

**Kate Kusterbeck** (Nursing) now offers integrative healing services and classes at EarthMond Wellness Center in Ellenville, N.Y.

**Ashley Metzger** (English) announced the birth of her child, Kinsey, on Jan. 10, 2012. Kinsey was 7 pounds, 12 ounces.

**Alicia Cavallo '09g** (Adolescence Education: English) is a high school English teacher in Putnam County, N.Y., and a graduate stu-

dent at Fordham University, pursuing an additional master's degree in School Building Leadership and Administration. She is engaged to be married to Brian Burns.

**Russell Thompson '09g** (Business Administration) attended the International Ticketing Association's (INTIX) 35th Annual Conference & Exhibition in Chicago, Ill. Thompson co-presented a session on bringing the box office into the 21st century with Keith Goldberg, vice president of marketing at Vendini, the ticketing service provider used at SUNY New Paltz to issue tickets. Thompson has been a member of INTIX and has attended each annual conference since he started working at SUNY New Paltz in August 2009, where he is responsible for ticketing the theatre program's Mainstage Productions, the music program's Concert Series and Piano Summer, and the Foundation/Development Office's Distinguished Speaker Series. He has also helped the John R. Kirk Planetarium on campus move their planetarium show reservation process online. Thompson was honored with the 2014 Young Ticketing Professional of the Year Award.

**11 Emily Atkin** (Journalism), whose work has been featured on billmoyers.com, is a reporter for Climate Progress. Before joining the team at American Progress, she worked as a newsgatherer and reporter covering litigation and policy for the legal newswire Law360. Atkin has also held internships with the *New York Observer*, the *Legislative Gazette*, and investigative reporter, Wayne Barrett.

**Kathleen "Kat" Egan** (Childhood Education 1-6) and Vincent Garulli welcomed their daughter, Lillie, on Dec. 10, 2013, arriving at 7 pounds and 19.75 inches long.

## Finding her niche in the metal program

**Name: Paige Munroe**

Hometown: Ann Arbor, Mich.

Graduated: May 2014

Major: Fine Arts (Metal Program)

### Why New Paltz?

I came to New Paltz originally for their metal program, since it's the best in the country. My family is from New York, so I'm acquainted with the state and I feel comfortable here. I was able to play tennis at Division III, so it was this perfect lineup of things. But I've wanted to come here from the beginning. I grew up in Ann Arbor, near the University of Michigan, a giant school with 50,000 kids. I could have gotten in and been with all the people from my high school who go there, but I wanted something different.

### What have you learned about yourself at New Paltz?

I've been learning this throughout my life, but the importance of internal strength and determination. Being self-determined is all you can ask of yourself, and all anyone can ask of you. By believing in myself, I can achieve great things. As a result, I've won all these awards. I've been honored. I'm on the Dean's List. It's great, but I've worked hard. I'm also a cancer survivor. I was 13, and that was something else where I had to get better myself, and be determined to make it through. I've carried that with me my whole life. That's why it's important to push yourself and set high goals. College has been all about that. I've had ups and downs. I've had hard times on campus. But you get over it. You keep moving.



### What do you like about working with metal?

We had a metals program in my high school, which is kind of a rare thing. I took a jewelry class for two years, and as soon as I started, it became my medium of choice. It suited me well, and I liked the different techniques. It's an aggressive medium. It's fire and hammers, not anything subtle. I fell in love with it, and I knew I wanted to pursue it in college.

### What/who have been some of your favorite courses or professors in the metal program?

I enjoy all of them. They all teach in a different style, but it works well. They each give you different skill sets that are important to make you a well-rounded metalsmith. My favorites are the forming classes, where you take sheet metal and hammer it into vessel forms. Right now I'm focusing on fabricating, which is what I'm doing for my thesis, where you solder pieces of sheet metal together to make more structural things. I've taken the digital fabrication class with Professor Hash, where we learned 3D printing, and that's helped me a lot. I learned how to use the AutoCAD software so you can render objects on a computer.

"I still continue to make art, be creative in my spare time, and look for unique information to add to my blog." — Natalie Iovino '06

Freerunning and Parkour Tour. LaFlair was once the "most subscribed to parkour and freerunning athlete" on YouTube, making him one of the most recognizable international freerunning athletes in the world. He joined the world famous Tempest Freerunning as a Pro Team Athlete in 2012. In 2013, he set a record for the highest scored run at the Red Bull Art of Motion in Santorini, Greece, landing him a best trick award and third place in the finals. He also placed first for the team freestyle with DeMeyers, and third place overall speed course at the Visions Classic. LaFlair appeared on the 2013 NBC television series "American Ninja Warrior," making it all the way to the competition finals.

announced the birth of their son, Jason Jr., on Oct. 3, 2013. Jason was 7 pounds, 4 ounces and 20 inches long.

**Richard Winters** (Political Science) joined the President's Office at SUNY New Paltz as the new community and government relations associate. In this role, Winters supports and assists the work of the president and the chief of staff/associate vice president for communication with key institutional initiatives outlined in the college's strategic plan and supports the Power of SUNY system-level strategic plan. Winters draws on his previous advocacy experience as a district representative for former Congressman John Hall to serve as a liaison between the



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**Steven Engels** (Accounting) joined the firm of Vanacore, DeBenedictus, DiGiovanni & Weddell, LLC. Engels is a senior accountant in the audit department at the Newburgh, N.Y., office.

**Katharine Majestic** (Painting) and Nicholas Bouchard announced the arrival of their daughter, Hayden Marie, on Sept. 30, 2013. Hayden was 6 pounds, 14 ounces and 20 inches long.

**Vincent Tampio** (Music), a musician in the Philadelphia and New York City regions, released his first full length solo album "Syzygy" on Jan. 14. Tampio composed, arranged, and performed on the majority of the instruments, and also served as executive producer, audio engineer, visual artist, and graphic designer. "Syzygy" is an instrumental narrative comprised of diverse musical genres including jazz, rhumba, reggae, fusion, and alternative rock.

**12 Helen Gutfreund** (Visual Arts Education) was invited to attend a White House Business Council briefing on Feb. 13, representing the New Paltz Regional Chamber of Commerce. A former small business owner, she has been active for a number of years in the greater New Paltz business community.

**13 Ayoub Aouad** (History) visited campus on Feb. 12 to speak to students as part of an History Majors Career Panel hosted by the History Department and the History Club.

**Joseph Bacchi** (Philosophy) completed an internship at the Washington Center (TWC) and became an admissions representative for the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars, a not-for-profit that provides college students from all backgrounds and

income levels with the opportunity to take their classroom learning into a professional internship setting. Bacchi now counsels students about internship opportunities through TWC.

**Sheryl Katz** (Journalism) created a public relations campaign for the YMCA of Kingston and Ulster County, which has been implemented by the YMCA and will be featured in a textbook. Katz completed internships with Pitch Control PR and CrewCuts, Inc., and was an intern for PMK\*BNC and the New York State Communication Association 2013 Conference. Through these internships, she had the opportunity to attend events such as the MLB Fan Cave 2013 All Star jacket re-launch, a Nivea product launch, and Netflix's red carpet premiere of Aziz Ansari's "Buried Alive."

**Lara Russo** (Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies) and her roommates **Reese Werkhoven '15** (Geology) and Callie Guasti made international headlines in May, when the trio bought a used couch that contained \$40,000 and returned the money to its owner. The inspiring story was picked up by more than 100 news and media outlets across the globe. The trio gave numerous media interviews regarding their decision, including appearances on CNN and NBC's "Today Show" and coverage by *Time* magazine, NPR, *People*, the Huffington Post, the *Washington Post*, ABC News, CBS News, *USA Today*, and the *Guardian*. 🇺🇸

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**UPCOMING Events**

Select events for alumni and friends. For a full listing visit [www.newpaltz.edu/alumni/events](http://www.newpaltz.edu/alumni/events)

**lectures theatre music**

- OCT. 18** ReConnect | ReNew | ReUnion (SUNY New Paltz)
- OCT. 21** Distinguished Speaker Series  
Richard Louv, author of "Last Child in the Woods" (SUNY New Paltz)
- Accounting & Finance Symposium**  
Keynote by alumnus Jim Schmidt '71 (SUNY New Paltz)
- NOV. 15** Alumni night at the theatre: "Rent" (SUNY New Paltz)
- NOV. 21** Burgers, Bites & Brews in Times Square (NYC)
- DEC. 4** Global Orange & Blue Day (worldwide)
- DEC. 9** Alumni evening of music: The Chorale Ensembles concert (SUNY New Paltz)
- JAN. 19** Alumni Day of Service (worldwide)
- FEB. 26** Alumni night at the theatre: "Trojan Women" (SUNY New Paltz)
- MARCH. 15-21** Alumni receptions Washington D.C., Florida, Atlanta (locations TBA)
- MAY. 1, 2, & 3** First World Reunion (SUNY New Paltz)

“Friends come into our lives and friends leave our lives. But friends never leave our hearts. And best friends always get to stay in the best places in our hearts.”

— John M. Simmons, *The Marvelous Journey Home*

**1928 - 1939**

Catherine Cutler '28  
Frank Miner '31  
Sylvia (Garellick) Berman '33  
Margaret (Auterino) Perrino '33  
Marie (Scocca) Straus '34  
Jane (Hynard) McLaughlin '39  
Abbie (Canfield) Morgan '39

**1940 - 1949**

Rita (McGovern) Hayes '42  
Eleanor Moore Pearse '42  
B. (Larsen) Johnson '44  
Loretta (Ellis) Joseph '44  
Virginia (Grant) Lenfest '44  
Teresa (Ensenbach) Linacre '45  
Elaine (Kontoulis) Melan '45  
Dorothy (Eisenhardt) Lawson '46  
Marilyn (Miller) Pedersen '47  
Winard Redding '47  
Caroline (Glass) Nagy '48  
Jane (Beckmann) Swayne '49

**1950 - 1959**

Shirley (Schilling) Carhart '50  
Muriel (Stengel) Burleigh '51  
Lois (Kraft) Darrow '51  
Lois Simonson '51  
Mildred (Smutney) Stoltze '51  
Irene (Szczechowski) Czarnecki '52  
Mabel Stokes '52  
Robert Bernhart '53  
Joyce (Eder) Van Wickler '54  
Ruth (Geller) Apfelbaum '55  
Natalie (McBride) Christian '55  
Carol (Story) Doney '55  
Barbara Keffer '55  
Betty (Blackburn) Tjossem '55  
Alice (Foley) Martin '56  
John Hussnatter '58  
Pat (Sullivan) Primrose '58  
Sam Huang '59

**1960 - 1969**

Sylvia (Katz) Harp '60  
Jacqueline VanCott '60  
Thomas Attanasio '63  
Joseph Longobardi '63  
Art Stockin '63

Willetha Slaughter '64  
Carole (Borden) Callahan '65  
Ruth Dougan '65  
Alyce (Frattarola) Fisher '65  
Robert Markes '65  
Peggy Schroter '65  
Anne (Graf) Simonian '65  
Henry Butryn '67  
Ronald Cole '67  
Lawrence Finkel '67  
Ted Hunt '67  
Theresa (Ross) Ross-Mauro '67  
George Ryan '67  
Wendell Van Lare '67  
Mary (Moore) Avallone '68  
James Burke '68  
Theodore Detjen '68  
Dennis McCann '68  
Donna (Scranton) Monro '68  
Gregory Murray '68  
Beverly (Venn) Britting '69  
Robert Huffmire '69  
Judith Murray '69  
Jane (Suk) Stuart-Andrus '69

**1970 - 1979**

Margaret (McDonald) Capra '70  
Richard Theodore '70  
Thomas Allred '71  
Rita (Paley) Kriesberg '71  
William Larmon '71  
Charles Prochera '71  
Kathleen (Meaney) Spinelli '71  
Anthony Mello '72  
John Nickolitch '72  
Susan (Tillman) Tyrrell '72  
Janet (Rogers) Wilkinson '72  
Martha (Walsh) Cohen '73  
Joseph Hughes '73  
Robert Rushforth '73  
Gerard Werner '73  
Alma (Viglielmo) Berinato '74  
Catherine Di Cesare '74  
Barbara Winternitz '74  
Harry Bantham '75  
Mildred (Fyllingen) Brown '75  
Richard Fant '75  
Bernhard Kramarsky '75  
Barbara (Craig) Brennan '76

Jack Rader '76  
Hilda Carr '77  
Eve Bizzell '78  
Richard Goldberg '79  
Dennis Herwig '79

**1980 - 1989**

Sandra (London) Steele '80  
Maureen (Strong) Strong '80  
Anne Markle '81  
William Meyers '81  
Stephen Babits '82  
Kay (Michels) Dooley '82  
Carolyn Grey '82  
Jacqueline Casazza '83  
Carol Pucek '83  
Russell Spring '83  
Steven Rotherforth '85  
Evelyn Mark '86  
Terri Wynn (Doerr) Twedell '86  
Effie Verven '86  
Jaclyn Lewis '88  
Matthew Ohare '88

**1990 - 1999**

Denny Drew '91  
Phyllis Weisblatt '91  
April Hartbrodt '92  
Anne Lynch '95  
Stephanie Rubino '95  
Robert Leonard '96

**2000 - 2009**

Melinda Abrams '01

# Planning Ahead A Legacy Comes to Life

Former Hawks athlete **Wendell Van Lare '67** passed away in July 2014 following a 10-year struggle with cancer. However, his spirit of discovery and generosity lives on at SUNY New Paltz through the Van Lare Family Scholarship and an estate gift of art and related materials given to the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art and the Art History Department.

Like many alumni from his era, Van Lare's tuition was free; however, he provided for today's students and parents through the Van Lare Family Endowed Scholarship Fund. This recent planned gift and previously established scholarship forever link Van Lare's spirit and generosity to SUNY New Paltz and the best that the College offers.

For more information, visit [www.newpaltz/give](http://www.newpaltz/give). Charitable gift annuities, bequests, trusts, and estate gifts are just a few ways to plan for the future and provide continued support to New Paltz. To learn more about Planned Giving at New Paltz, call **Nick Rama at 845-257-2602** or email [raman@newpaltz.edu](mailto:raman@newpaltz.edu).



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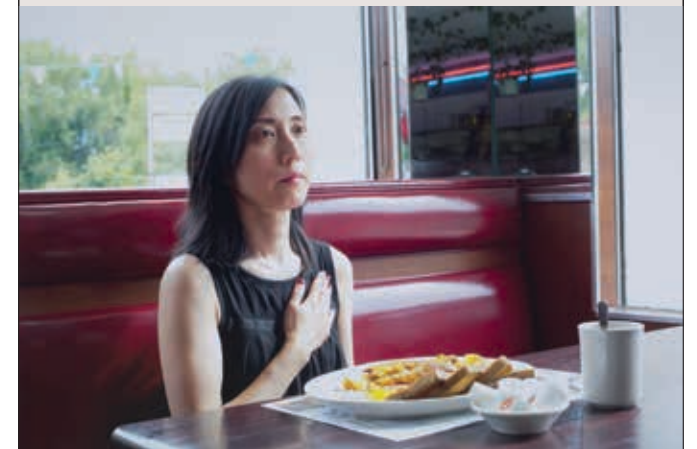
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## Race, Love, and Labor: New Work from The Center for Photography at Woodstock's Artist-in-Residency Program

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A large background image showing a foundry scene. Molten metal is being poured from a ladle into a mold, creating a bright, glowing stream of light. The scene is filled with industrial equipment and tools, all bathed in the warm, golden light of the molten metal.

# DICK POLICH

TRANSFORMING METAL INTO ART

The work of renowned metallurgist and Hudson Valley foundry owner Dick Polich is on display from **Aug. 27—Dec. 14, 2014** in the Morgan Anderson Gallery, Howard Greenberg Family Gallery, and Corridor of the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art at SUNY New Paltz.

[www.newpaltz.edu/museum/exhibitions/polich.html](http://www.newpaltz.edu/museum/exhibitions/polich.html)



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