The Office of Communication and Marketing and Undergraduate Admission recently launched an integrated marketing campaign that involved print, digital and video material. Check out the new website today, and let us know what you think of the new design...and the new video at the top of the page!

"The roots for finding balance were planted here at New Paltz."
—Darlene I. Bahrs ’75, p. 17

NEW FEATURES!
Video related to story
+ Additional feature
First World New Paltz alumni honor legacy of opportunity at the College

When the organizers of the 2015 First World Reunion investigated the foundations of educational opportunity at SUNY New Paltz, some were surprised by the dynamic and unique history their search revealed.

“We realized in our research that in 1967 and 1968 there was a group of administrators who formalized the process of matriculating students of color at New Paltz,” said Onika Jervis ’93 (Biology) ’05g (Educational Administration and Supervision), 2015 First World steering committee and Alumni Advisory Council member. “And we realized that we had never really acknowledged their work, and never said ‘thank you’ to them.”

This year, more than 200 alumni from around the world returned to campus to pay homage to the rich heritage and growing diversity at New Paltz. The reunion featured town hall discussions, parties, a Voices of Unity Concert and a student/alumni basketball tournament. The highlight of the weekend, however, was the “Trailblazer Reception,” at which the reunion committee joined alumni and college administrators in tribute to the architects of Project A, a precursor to the current Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). EOP provides academic and financial support to New York State residents with a high school diploma, or its equivalent, and who do not meet general admission criteria, but have the academic potential to earn a college degree. Today the program provides assistance and guidance to hundreds of students, many of whom become the first in their families to graduate from college.

Among those recognized were Purnell Kirkland, the first full-time director of Project A; John H. Jacobson, the interim president of SUNY New Paltz who supported and sanctioned the program; and Edward D. Bell, who helped develop and guide Project A in its infancy, and later served the College as director of the Minority Recruitment Program and as associate dean of admissions.

Additional tributes were dedicated to the original 20 Project A students and to beloved faculty who touched the lives of First World New Paltz alumni, including Dr. Marjorie Butler, first chair of the Black Studies Department; retiring professor of Black Studies Zelbert Moore; and the late Dr. Margaret Wade-Lewis, longtime faculty member and leader in Black Studies and in the Scholars Mentorship Program.

"MANY OF THE THINGS WE HOLD VALUABLE AND MAY TAKE FOR GRANTED WERE STARTED BY THESE TRAILBLAZERS, AND WE HONOR THEM FOR LEAVING US A LEGACY TO BUILD UPON."

— First World steering committee and Alumni Advisory Council member Anthony T. Winn ’92 (Business Administration)
UNPRECEDEDNT CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES!

In an effort to tackle unmet housing demands, achieve 21st century learning standards and consolidate services to better meet student needs, numerous construction projects are underway at SUNY New Paltz. Three new buildings, three major renovations and infrastructural upgrades, in various stages, are on schedule with some to be completed before the end of 2015.

“We have a facilities master plan for the entire campus and our staff is working hard to make that plan a reality,” said John Shupe, assistant vice president of Facilities Management.

NEW! Wooster Building
the completely renovated and redesigned Wooster Building will house a number of student service offices, as well as English, philosophy, music and foreign language programs, and will feature a new café and student lounge.

NEW! Ridgeview Hall
The newest SUNY New Paltz residence hall opened its doors to 225 student residents this fall to help meet significant student demand for on-campus housing. Ridgeview Hall is located between the Athletic and Wellness Center and Lenape and Esopus halls. It is the most modern student housing facility on campus, and features a new café and an unparalleled view of the iconic Shawangunk Ridge.

NEW! Mohonk West
This project extends the recently completed Mohonk East pedestrian walkway behind the Jacobson Faculty Tower and down the hill to van den Berg Hall.

NEW! Service Building
The Service Building renovation will allow University Police (UPD), Custodial, Facilities Management and Environmental Health and Safety (EHS), to relocate to spaces more appropriate to their needs. UPD will settle into its new space during fall 2015.

NEW! Sojourner Truth Library
The Sojourner Truth Library renovation has unfolded over multiple phases to ensure continuous operation during the project. Renovation of the main level will be completed during fall 2015. New features will include an expanded view of the Shawangunk Ridge to the west, increased natural lighting, technological upgrades and new and improved group study areas for students and faculty that meet 21st century library standards.

OTHER PROJECTS INCLUDE:

2015 Opening
NEW! Engineering Innovation Hub
Facilities Management staff is evaluating design proposals for the new Engineering Innovation Hub. The building will be next to Rauschen Engineering Hall, and the two structures will be joined by a suspended, enclosed walkway. The building will house the college’s new mechanical engineering program and support the interdisciplinary 3D printing initiative.

Cost: $14M

Science Building (pg. 5)
Steel erection has been completed at the new science building, and roofing and walling are set to begin once the structure is fully enclosed. This project will house physics and astronomy, mathematics, geology, computer science and geography.

Cost: $48M

Fall 2015
NEW! Mohonk East
Steel erection has been completed at Mohonk East, and roofing and walling are set to begin next spring. The building will house physics and astronomy, mathematics, geology, computer science and geography.

Cost: $48M

Mid-Fall 2015
NEW! Ridgeview Hall
The newest SUNY New Paltz residence hall opened its doors to 225 student residents this fall to help meet significant student demand for on-campus housing. Ridgeview Hall is located between the Athletic and Wellness Center and Lenape and Esopus halls. It is the most modern student housing facility on campus, and features a new café and an unparalleled view of the iconic Shawangunk Ridge.

Cost: $31M

Early 2016
NEW! Sojourner Truth Library
The Sojourner Truth Library renovation has unfolded over multiple phases to ensure continuous operation during the project. Renovation of the main level will be completed during fall 2015. New features will include an expanded view of the Shawangunk Ridge to the west, increased natural lighting, technological upgrades and new and improved group study areas for students and faculty that meet 21st century library standards.

Cost: $14M

Fall 2015
NEW! Service Building
The Service Building renovation will allow University Police (UPD), Custodial, Facilities Management and Environmental Health and Safety (EHS), to relocate to spaces more appropriate to their needs. UPD will settle into its new space during fall 2015.

Cost: $5.4M

Leonard 2016
NEW! Sojourner Truth Library
The Sojourner Truth Library renovation has unfolded over multiple phases to ensure continuous operation during the project. Renovation of the main level will be completed during fall 2015. New features will include an expanded view of the Shawangunk Ridge to the west, increased natural lighting, technological upgrades and new and improved group study areas for students and faculty that meet 21st century library standards.

Cost: $14M

Funds for our many major construction and renovation projects come from long-term state bonds that are separate from the College’s operating budget, which covers personnel, utilities and supplies. Although these projects are already underway, there are naming opportunities within these projects for donors. For more information, visit www.newpaltz.edu/give/
More than 1,500 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 1,709 undergraduate and 447 graduate degrees were conferred. Valedictorian Marisa Gargaro ’15 (Communication Disorders) and Honorary Degree recipient Bre Pettis, 3D printing pioneer, congratulated the new graduates.

“Before I knew what was happening I had agreed to an interview,” said Musial. “The volunteers were subjected to a rigorous screening process and by the time I heard that I had been accepted, I was already emotionally invested in the opportunity to serve others in such a remote and intriguingly inaccessible location.”

The Bhutan Foundation is a non-profit agency that seeks to effect positive change in several domains within the Kingdom of Bhutan, including special education. As such, volunteers are sent to train teachers to identify and address special needs within the general student population.

“The volunteers provide teachers with foundational knowledge,” said Musial. “They show them how to identify areas of need and support the integration of that information into planning and instruction.”

Musial was struck by the magnitude of the task when she found that most of the teachers in Bhutan were unfamiliar with the concepts of learning disabilities and inclusive education.

“The identification of and assistance to students with learning disabilities is still a new concept in Bhutan,” she said. “That is why the Bhutan Foundation is training teachers and administrators to recognize that such disabilities exist and that many heretofore ‘behavior problems’ and rates of student failure are actually attributable to invisible learning barriers.”

Although overwhelmed at times, Musial felt that SUNY New Paltz prepared her for this challenging experience and equipped her to respond to whatever was expected of her as a volunteer.

“The emphasis on data-driven instruction in both the Adolescent and Special Education departments at New Paltz prepared me from the very start,” she said. “The humanistic, multi-cultural context of education at New Paltz has shaped me as a teacher.”

"The humanistic, multicultural context of education at New Paltz has shaped me as a teacher."
"I get a lot back from doing this type of work...I get to share in the joy and accomplishment that comes from this type of therapy."

-Winter Eyres ’07 (International Business) ’13g (Speech Language Pathology)

When Winter Eyres ’07 (International Business) ’13g (Speech Language Pathology) was a child, her maternal grandmother suffered a severe stroke that left her struggling to communicate for more than 40 years. Later, when a diagnosis of mouth cancer forced another family member to endure extensive therapy to regain his ability to swallow and speak, Eyres felt called to action.

"I get a lot back from doing this type of work...I get to share in the joy and accomplishment that comes from this type of therapy."

-Winter Eyres ’07 (International Business) ’13g (Speech Language Pathology)
Parkinson’s, traumatic brain injury, and a number of potential causes, from neurological diseases like autism, stroke, cognitive issues.

The Center for children and adults who suffer from communication disorders offers therapeutic services for individuals in the Hudson Valley. Speech-language pathologists, along with family support in treating debilitating communication disorders, and she was determined to make a difference. The experience of seeing her loved ones struggle, and witnessing their hard work, motivated Eyres to become a speech pathologist.

“I get a lot back from doing this type of work,” said Eyres, who works as a speech pathologist at Helen Hayes Hospital Rehabilitation Center in West Haverstraw, N.Y. “I get to share in the joy and accomplishment that comes from this type of therapy.”

Working closely with people afflicted with communication disorders allows Eyres to witness the value of compassionate therapists like Eyres, many often improve.

“Being able to give someone back the skills to communicate effectively again, such as after a stroke, is so rewarding,” she said. “Seeing that progress and celebrating with them as they return home is why many of us do what we do.”

The Speech-Language and Hearing Center provides students with a unique opportunity to work alongside faculty mentors and professional speech-language pathologists, who offer clinical diagnostic and therapeutic services for individuals with communication disorders. Treatment is available through the Center for children and adults who demonstrate speech, language, or hearing difficulties that may result from a number of potential causes, including developmental issues, autism, stroke, cognitive issues from neurological diseases like Parkinson’s, traumatic brain injury, and various voice disorders.

“In the classroom we can talk about theory of language, speech, and hearing, but in the clinic we offer the opportunity for hands-on experience,” said Wendy Bower, instructor in the Department of Communication Disorders. “The Center’s services include diagnostic evaluations and intervention for a range of diverse needs, from pediatric clients looking for early intervention to adults suffering from aphasia. Aphasia is a collection of language disorders affecting speech, language, reading and writing caused by damage to the brain.

The Center is a part of the Department of Communication Disorders and operates on a not-for-profit basis, charging nominal fees for its services. All supervisors are licensed by New York State and hold the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Certificate of Clinical Competence in either Audiology or Speech-Language Pathology.

“We offer services at reduced cost because we are a teaching facility,” Bower said. “It’s great for community members to get an evaluation that is less expensive but still at the highest level and quality. I also think it keeps the College connected to the region and continually responsive to community needs.”

Helen Hayes Hospital Rehabilitation Center is a not-for-profit provider of rehabilitative services, operating on a not-for-profit basis, charging nominal fees for its services. All supervisors are licensed by New York State and hold the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Certificate of Clinical Competence in either Audiology or Speech-Language Pathology.

“It’s great for community members to get an evaluation that is less expensive but still at the highest level and quality. I also think it keeps the College connected to the region and continually responsive to community needs.”

For more information on the Speech-Language and Hearing Center, visit www.newpaltz.edu/commdis/
"I do work for several aviation companies to solve problems before they get into production," said Goho. "But in some cases, problems escape and make it to the field where they shut down power, interrupt fuel flow, or cause fatal crashes."

Goho has more than 30 years experience in consulting, diagnosing, and analyzing electronic components and printed circuit-board failures that result from design, process, manufacturing, mechanical, and environmental causes. He is recognized as one of the leading component experts in the litigation field.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires that all aircraft failures be investigated for a root cause and documented in the FAA archives. Found within those archives are numerous reports written by Jack Goho ’77 ’81g (Chemistry), a prominent player in the aviation failure analysis business.
The alumnus is often hired as an expert witness for legal proceedings that involve plane crash analysis. Of the approximately 26 active experts in aircraft failure analysis in the United States, Gocho is the only one who specializes in electronic printed circuit-board components.

And he does all this having not strayed far from his alma mater. Gocho opened his business, Gideon Analytical Labs, in nearby Highland, N.Y., in 1988. For 27 years he has operated as lab manager for a range of clients. He provides the electronic industry with failure analysis on electrical components and chemical and material analysis, and supports quality control, qualification, and production of product lines for the aerospace, military, computer, transportation, and financial sectors.

“Many who perform analysis will travel all over the world doing depositions and protocols, but I usually see two to four cases a year,” said Gocho. “They only call me in when they’ve narrowed it down to a printed circuit board problem, when they know it’s an electronic issue.”

Gocho’s testimonies typically rely on other experts’ analyses of flight patterns, plane recorders, schematics, electronics, and general protocols that might suggest mechanical causes of aircraft failure. Once these potential causes are ruled out he can begin testing the components on the printed circuit board. It’s a long, arduous process for Gocho, who said the preliminary discovery period for many lawsuits often takes a year or more before he is able to run necessary experiments.

Despite the demanding task, Gocho speaks passionately about his work and admits to investigating a number of remarkable aircraft failures as a professional analyst and expert witness. Most have been small plane crashes with subsequent court cases initiated by family members of the deceased. Gocho remembers well a crash that killed a 42-year-old father of two, the case taken to court by the man’s grieving wife, however, the tragic irony of another crash will always resonate with him.

“One case I worked involved a military helicopter that killed two,” said Gocho. “This helicopter went down after a routine maintenance flight. Oddly enough, both the pilot and the other victim had recently earned awards for superior maintenance on the very helicopter that failed them.”

Caused by an over current on a transformer, the propellers stopped rotating, and the aircraft went down. “There was nothing they could have done,” said Gocho. “Sadly, you can’t control some things while in the cockpit; the pilot is often just suffering the consequences of a power board failure.”

When asked if he foresaw himself engrossed in plane crash investigations as a New Paltz undergraduate, Gocho’s answer is a resounding no.

“I had no idea I was going to be doing this sort of thing... for me, it was all a matter of following the threads that connected along my career.”

Those threads first came together when he landed a job at Reichhold Chemical Co., thanks in part to the help of Angelo Depastage, who was then the chairperson of the chemistry department at New Paltz.

“He was a good guy,” said Gocho of Depastage. “He looked after anyone who majored in chemistry at the College; there were only seven or eight of us at the time.”

Gocho worked at Reichhold for nearly four years before landing a job operating components in the materials lab for IBM’s power supply division. When massive layoffs in 1994 left only five out of 45 people still employed in those labs, Gocho decided to buy enough equipment to go into failure analysis and start his own business.

“At IBM you could tell what components you were getting but now, working for myself, I get failures in from all over the world,” said Gocho. “Components you’ve never seen or heard of in your life before. It’s very challenging, but rewarding.”

photo credit: Spencer Ainsley ’79
Alumnae return to inspire and reconnect

The College welcomed 31 women scholars and thought leaders, the vast majority of whom are alumnae, for a summit titled “Successful Women: What Does It Take?” in March 2015 that attracted nearly 250 students from majors across the campus. Attendees listened as women in various careers reflected on their academic, professional and personal successes, and offered advice for students about to enter the workforce. Panels spoke of professors who helped make dreams careers a reality and addressed topics such as work-life balance, the importance of art, excelling in male-dominated fields, and the critical role of alumnae at the College.

Work-Life Balance

Darlene I. Bahrs ’75
Social Psychologist, San Francisco, Calif.

An inquisitive nature and passion for social justice originally brought Darlene Bahrs ’75 (Secondary Education) to SUNY New Paltz, however it was her upbringing in a traditionally patriarchal family that spurred her interest in studying women who pursue both a family and a career. In her return to campus she encouraged current students to work hard and believe they can achieve success in both spheres.

“My father would say to me: ‘You can’t have a career and be a mother,’” said Bahrs. “But I was always trying to find a way to merge the two and make it work.”

As a student, Bahrs conducted independent study into dual-career families, research that helped to define her life and work as she moved into the independent health consultancy profession.

“The roots for finding balance were planted here at New Paltz,” she said of her work with James Halpern, professor of psychology and director of the Institute for Disaster Mental Health.

“It allowed me to explore how I might bring these things together in my own life.”

After graduation, Bahrs moved to San Francisco, Calif., where she lives with her family to this day. She continued to study social psychology, worked as a community health educator and cofounded that city’s first rape crisis center for victims of sexual assault. She currently works with homeless and psychiatric communities and provides continuing education classes in the United States and abroad.

Beyond those profiled on these pages, other alumnae participants included:

Ariel Benjamin ’08 (Theatre Arts), Regina Calzadilla ’88 (Political Science), Jude King Carroll ’03 (Theater Design/Technology and Performance), Patricia (Pam) Cassady ’93 (Chemistry), Janet Davis ’96 (Communications Media), Nerra Fay ’80 (Anthropology), Gortie Green-Hodnett ’91 (Black Studies), Amber Greene ’03 (Public Relations), Rebecca J. Hashmack ’90 (Accounting), Yvonne (CPA Accounting), Claudia) Jury ’70 (Secondary Education), Vicki Kowal ’82 (Visual Arts), Janet Lee ’86 (Biology), Olga MDE ’07 (Theatre Arts), Judy Paige O’Brien ’76 (Sociology) ’75 (Economics), Laura Spiegel ’75 (Mathematics), Victoria Taneri ’80 (Metal)
Professor/Student Relationships Lead to Success

Hillary Lindeman ‘11
Product and Interaction Designer at Google, San Francisco, Calif.

Hillary Lindeman ‘11 (Graphic Design) said the meaningful student-teacher relationships she developed with professors at New Paltz helped her learn what makes her tick, and ultimately led to work at Google’s global headquarters in Mountain View, Calif.

“Professor Anne Galperin saw me tinker with interactive design and helped me develop it,” said Lindeman. “With her encouragement, I was able to acquire internships that opened my eyes to the whole industry and eventually landed me on the path to Google.”

As a product and interaction designer, Lindeman leads design efforts on local search and map products, and she is also a proud and active member of Google’s internal Women in UX community.

Though she has found success and a satisfying lifestyle on the West Coast, Lindeman was eager to return to the campus, which she remembers as the home away from home where she was encouraged to discover her passions.

“I really think that the openness of the professors here, the diversity of the students and the campus culture allow our personal skills to shine,” Lindeman said.

The Importance of Art

Cynthia Farrell Johnson ‘76
Chief Creative Officer of Farrell Johnson Fine Arts LLC, Silver Spring, Md.

The importance of art doesn’t end with your studies in college. As a former student of the Upright Citizens, Cynthia Farrell Johnson ‘76 (Art History) returned to campus to launch a 30-year career in public diplomacy, actually makes perfect sense.

“Art gives us an interesting way to understand the culture and politics of a place, because you have a visual record of a point in time,” said Johnson. “If you have a way of reaching people and engaging them, you obtain an understanding of what’s important to them. That is when you can start asking the right questions.”

Johnson applied these skills in an array of international settings for the Foreign Service and as a reviewing officer in the Office of Global Information Services at the U.S. State Department.

“I wanted to let folks know you can use your art in many different ways and still be true to your artist self.”

Finding a Place in Male-Dominated Fields

Karyn Hurley ‘00
Software Development Engineer for IBM, New Paltz

As a Hispanic woman working in a traditionally male-dominated field, Karyn Hurley ‘00 (Electrical Engineering) returned to New Paltz to remind female undergraduates that rewarding career opportunities exist for them in math and science.

“I find too many young women are walking away from technology careers because they perceive them as too difficult or too aggressive,” said Hurley.

Hurley has defied expectations also as a student who returned to college while in her 30s. She counseled current students to remain patient, never stop growing and believe that the final result is worth waiting for.

“I found I had to work a little harder to speak in a way that my male counterparts understood and respected,” she said. “But it was all on me. I dove in and when I got my degree I had a huge smile on my face. I want other students to know that feeling of achievement.”

“Bring Energy, Creativity and Good Storytelling to All That You Do.”

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The Power of Alumni to Inspire

Tracy Soren ‘08
Coordinator of Alumni Relations and University Advancement for the State University of New York, New York City

Working as SUNY’s coordinator of alumni relations and university advancement, Tracy Soren ‘08 (Journalism) has a first-hand understanding of the vital part alumni play in improving educational opportunities and outcomes for new generations of students.

“I think it’s really important for us to come back, engage with the campus and speak with students about our experiences after graduation,” she said.

“The lesson Soren has learned from splitting her time between these two distinct fields, and the message she shared with New Paltz students in attendance at the Women’s Summit, is to bring energy, creativity and good story-telling to all that they endeavor to do.”
New Paltz runs in the Hottum family. Bruce Hottum ’78 (Biology) and his wife Margaret Smith ’76 (Asian Studies) have looked on as their three sons flourished at the College, too. “I think I had a hand in directly influencing my sons to attend New Paltz,” said Bruce. “The location is great and the College is only getting better as far as the educational value.”

The Hottums’ three children, John Hottum ’13 (Management), Dean Hottum ’14 (Management) (pictured above), and Peter Hottum ’15 (Asian Studies), are the latest generation in a legacy of nostalgia and accomplishment that keeps the Hottum family involved on campus. Sons Dean and Peter have been successful on the men’s Rugby team (with regular encouragement from their parents, of course), and Bruce has found himself in a variety of roles at the College as well.

As a former member of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences advisory board, Bruce has collaborated with the dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences regarding alumni outreach. He has also been involved with the Office of Development and Alumni Relations on parent outreach programs. For the father of three, New Paltz was an opportunity place for his sons to grow and learn, thanks in part to what he saw as key improvements the College has made since he and his wife attended.

“In addition to the academic growth, the physical changes are encouraging as well,” said Bruce of recent upgrades and new construction at the College. “The renovations are all positive; nothing is stagnant.”

Bruce’s ties to the College also extend to his professors. Well-aware of the academic rigor expected of New Paltz students, Bruce knew just who to contact when he found himself looking for an intern to work at his dental practice, Pine Street Dental Associates in New Paltz. “I wanted to get an intern to develop my social media at the practice, so I got involved with the internship mentorship program at the College,” said Bruce. “It just made sense to seek an intern from my alma mater. I’m nostalgic and owe my success to New Paltz.”

Bruce studied dentistry at New York University and his ties to New Paltz were reinforced through mutual friends when he met the fellow New Paltz graduate who would become his wife. Smith attended St. John’s Law School following her New Paltz graduation and is now retired after years of work as an attorney. When it came time to help her children decide how they would begin their professional lives, she joined her husband in encouraging them to consider New Paltz.

Given their strong ties to the campus, Bruce believes his family’s relationship with New Paltz is not likely to wane after his youngest son’s graduation. “Bruce reflects happily on the 30 years that have passed since he was first lured to the campus by its proximity to the Shawangunk Mountains and picturesque setting. “It’s been a lifetime of unique decisions that have kept us here at New Paltz,” said Bruce. “Looking at our sons, it’s easy to see we’ve come full circle.”

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The location is great and the College is only getting better as far as the educational value.” – Bruce Hottum ’78

SUNY New Paltz alumni are finding meaningful employment with Fostering Change for Children (FCFC), an organization dedicated to improving the lives of youths and families in New York’s foster care system. What Shaw found at Children’s Corps was an opportunity to devote the necessary care and attention to people who need it most. “To me, child welfare means being the advocate for a child or family when they feel they don’t have a voice,” she said. “I’ve learned that this career involves total engagement with families, and that’s the aspect of the work I enjoy most.”

Other recent New Paltz graduates to be accepted into the Children’s Corps program include Shinaika Phillip ’12 (Black Studies), Tina Cherry ’12 (English) and Kathryn Hall ’09 (Black Studies/Linguistics). “I had been seeking a job that allowed me to be able to fight for children’s rights and to work toward ensuring their safety,” said Hall, who became a Children’s Corps member in 2013. “I was also looking for something that gave me exposure to issues including domestic violence, homelessness, substance abuse and other challenges society faces.”

While she was a New Paltz student, Hall discovered her interest in working on behalf of the underserved and disadvantaged. She worked in student government and also had the opportunity to conduct a Summer Undergraduate Research Experience through a grant overseen by a New Paltz professor. “My education at SUNY New Paltz gave me a contextual basis for making change in families,” Hall said. “As a black studies major my understanding of systemic injustice and the gaps in services for people of color strengthened my resolve and commitment to the families. My education at SUNY New Paltz allowed me to become the person I am today, a person who can use research and connections to gain knowledge and make change.”

Following her placement in the Foster Care and Adoption Unit at Sheltering Arms Children’s and Family Services, Hall will become one of many Corps graduates to continue with their agencies at the conclusion of their initial contracts. She will accept a full-time position as a senior case planner at Sheltering Arms. Hall said she is grateful to the program for helping her embark on a career in child welfare services.

“I absolutely love my job,” she said. “I’ve made real strong and supportive connections with the families, and have been able to help them get through the toughest times of their lives.”
Fall 2015

New Paltz salutes the legacy of Professor Ted Clark

"It's not that I won't miss my colleagues or the administrative staff. It's not that I won't miss the beauty of the Hudson Valley or the College itself, but my time here has always been about the students, and the American Marketing Association (AMA) as a complement to those students." Clark will be remembered for a number of lasting impacts and achievements, but chief among these will be his legacy as adviser to the New Paltz chapter of the AMA. Clark has led the organization to remarkable levels of success and committed a great deal of time to working with the student leaders, assisting them in the planning and implementation of a wide variety of workshops and conferences.

At this year’s annual conference in New Orleans, La., SUNY New Paltz ranked eighth in a field of more than 200 colleges and universities as the top Silver Chapter at the International Collegiate Conference—the College’s highest ranking ever. Clark also received the AMA Lifetime Achievement Award at the event.

"Combined, this is probably the highest honor that I could achieve," said Clark. "I am trying to decide which is more meaningful and I think, quite frankly, it's still the student achievement." Hired as an adjunct in 1984, Clark became a full-time faculty member in 1987. During his career, he has succeeded in developing connections to the regional business community that have yielded a variety of consulting projects for faculty and students through both the AMA and the Business Institute. He has won a series of awards in recognition of his hard work; he was awarded the Provost’s Outstanding Faculty Service Award in 2014, the School of Business Distinguished Service Award in 2009, and was named AMA Adviser of the Year in 2008.

Clark earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration from Marist College in 1981 and his master’s degree in both marketing and management from Long Island University in 1987. Clark is also the director of Ted Clark and Associates, a marketing consulting firm in the Hudson Valley, where he has hired a number of New Paltz students to work as interns. Always willing to be helpful and contribute his time and effort, Clark has assisted as a mentor to students, helping them to build leadership skills that will serve them well in their career. He will be remembered for making a profound difference to the School of Business.

"I've always considered the students to be the single most important component here at the College," said Clark. "I have a real open door policy in the true sense, I leave the door open all the time. If a student needs me, they know where to find me."

For former student Jesse Hicks ’15 (Management) "His openness and willingness to engage with his students first encouraged him to choose New Paltz for his undergraduate degree, and later left him with many fond memories. "His demeanor and the success of the AMA truly inspired me to choose New Paltz as a school and accept a position on the AMA Board," said Hicks. "I am honored to have him as our AMA faculty adviser, a professor, a mentor and friend. He truly is a legend."

Though his time at New Paltz has come to an end, Clark is looking forward to continuing to serve the School of Business in retirement. He hopes to ensure a smooth transition by answering any questions, any time, for up to a year, before he is ready to sincerely say goodbye.

"I need to wean myself slowly," said Clark. "I am not going to cut the cord. I just can’t do that. I want to be sure that I can provide any help that’s needed in the next transitional year. I’ll see you next year."

The Ted Clark Travel Fund has been established in honor of Ted Clark to assist AMA Executive Board members with paying for travel to attend the annual AMA International Collegiate Conference. Give today at www.newpaltz.edu/give.

Go to www.newpaltz.edu/2015/11/30 to see our special photo exhibition in honor of Ted Clark and read more about the AMA and one of its former members, Jesse Hicks. TW "Meet our Students." Click on the second box from the left.

"I've always considered the students to be the single most important component here at the College."
—Professor Ted Clark

For Ted Clark, a lecturer in marketing and strategic management, New Paltz has been about one thing: "It's about the students," he said when asked what he would miss most after his retirement.

"It's not that I won't miss my colleagues or the administrative staff. It's not that I won't miss the beauty of the Hudson Valley or the College itself, but my time here has always been about the students, and the American Marketing Association (AMA) as a complement to those students." Clark will be remembered for a number of lasting impacts and achievements, but chief among these will be his legacy as adviser to the New Paltz chapter of the AMA. Clark has led the organization to remarkable levels of success and committed a great deal of time to working with the student leaders, assisting them in the planning and implementation of a wide variety of workshops and conferences.

At this year’s annual conference in New Orleans, La., SUNY New Paltz ranked eighth in a field of more than 200 colleges and universities as the top Silver Chapter at the International Collegiate Conference—the College’s highest ranking ever. Clark also received the AMA Lifetime Achievement Award at the event.

"Combined, this is probably the highest honor that I could achieve," said Clark. "I am trying to decide which is more meaningful and I think, quite frankly, it's still the student achievement." Hired as an adjunct in 1984, Clark became a full-time faculty member in 1987. During his career, he has succeeded in developing connections to the regional business community that have yielded a variety of consulting projects for faculty and students through both the AMA and the Business Institute. He has won a series of awards in recognition of his hard work; he was awarded the Provost’s Outstanding Faculty Service Award in 2014, the School of Business Distinguished Service Award in 2009, and was named AMA Adviser of the Year in 2008.

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The importance of teamwork conveyed by this motto has continued to inspire Vultaggio in her career as a police officer. A July 2014 graduation of the New York Police Department (NYPD) Academy, Vultaggio describes an average day in the same terms she might have used to describe the feeling she got playing lacrosse. In both cases, she grew accustomed to supporting and being supported by others.

“Now, I am on foot patrol, just me and my partner showing our presence and trying to stop crime,” she said. “It’s a physical challenge, but every day it is different and that is one of the reasons I like it.”

Vultaggio finds a number of parallels between her time as a student athlete and her current work as an officer. She said her career often reminded her of the excitement and uncertainty she felt on game day.

“When I am in the locker room, it’s just like putting on my uniform for a game,” she said. “It is all very spur of the moment, just like lacrosse.”

After graduating from New Paltz, Vultaggio earned a master’s degree in sports management from Adelphi University, and then moved to Atlanta, Ga., to become a police officer. She never gave up on her dream to serve the NYPD, however, and last year she finally got the call.

The NYPD ceremony of Vultaggio and 780 fellow academy graduates was presided over by former Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and former Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly. At the commencement, Probationary Police Officer Vultaggio earned the highest female physical fitness score and received the Chief of Department Award.

She is quick to acknowledge that her lacrosse teammates helped her to get where she is now with the NYPD.

“Tje was able to take what I learned at SUNY New Paltz, on and off the field, and bring it to what I am doing now,” she said. “I work with 10 other people in my squad and we all look out for each other, just like my teammates and I used to.”

Address your class notes to:

54 Rita (Solomon) Drucker (Early Childhood Education) and her husband, Harvey Drucker, were honored on Nov. 2, 2016, by Temple B’nai Torah in Wantagh, N.Y., for their service in and out of the temple. The couple was profiled in the Long Island Herald, which reported they grew up in Brooklyn before moving to Seaford, N.Y., in 1961 with their two children, Rita and David. Rita worked as a substitute teacher for adult education and a special education teacher. Now retired, she finds her passion in writing, Asian painting and traveling.

Norman Ellman (Elementary Education) of Bradenton, Fla., has a private practice in psychotherapy in the Bradenton area and out of the temple. The couple was profiled in the Long Island Herald, which reported they grew up in Brooklyn before moving to Seaford, N.Y., in 1961 with their two children, Rita and David. Rita worked as a substitute teacher for adult education and a special education teacher. Now retired, she finds her passion in writing, Asian painting and traveling.

Norman Ellman (Elementary Education) of Bradenton, Fla., has had a private practice in psychotherapy since 1967. He earned a Ph.D. in behavioral science from New York University, a master’s degree in clinical and school psychology from Yeshiva University and a master’s degree in education from Queens College. He’s held numerous positions in counseling and psychology services in various settings, including as co-director of North Jersey Mental Health Associates, psychologist consultant and chief psychologist-director of the Child Study Team for Glen Rock Public Schools in New Jersey, school psychologist for the Wantagh and Brentwood Public Schools in New York State and staff therapist at Bi-County and Lynbrook Consultation Centers in New York State. More recently, Norman served on the Health Advisory Board of Head Start in Bradenton.

55 66th Reunion

56 Mary (Schelle) Heinz (Elementary Education) wrote that she’s 80 and still going strong, having recently completed a 5K to benefit Hospice.

63 Joseph Hoff (Elementary Education) ’66g (Science) and his wife, Peggy (Rezinas) Hoff (Elementary Education Pre-K-6 Biology) live in Fairfield, N.Y. They have a summer home on Keuka Lake where they specialize in spoiling their six grandsons.
Dr. Hoff has published his seventh book, “Enlightened Leadership for America’s Cities,” to provide development resource for current and aspiring school administrators. He continues to lecture at the local, national, and international level, promoting the importance of quality education programs and diversity. His workshops and institutes have been well-received by colleagues from all 50 states and more than 35 countries.

Cynthia Winkina (Art Education) was nominated and won the La VidaForte award for her encaustic painting teacher of 2014 by the International Encasist Artists Association. Her artwork and theories on abstract art are featured in a new book by Dean Nimmo, “Creating Abstract Art,” published by North Light Books.

William Leonardi (Art Education) had a conversation with Debra (Kramer) Branitz about his new book titled “Surreal Images,” posted for his sons and currently live in Wantagh, Long Island Herald June 22, 1963, as reported by the East End Times. Leonardi is a former award-winning recording artist, producer and cast-alumnus at 2016 Reunion Weekend, where he was honored with the arts director, finished off 2014 with a concert and his SDAC grant, and was promoted to director of development for current and aspiring school administrators.

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McKenzie Willis (Sociology) read selections from his children’s book “Tales of the Rainbow Forest,” at the Arts Society of Kingston, N.Y. The book explores the importance of nature and sharing with and respecting others, and features illustration by Rick Holland. Willis now works primarily as a writing and spiritual life coach.

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Kevin Cahill (Political Science), the incumbent Democrat, was re-elected to a 10th term in the New York State Assembly in 2014. A resident of Kingston, N.Y., he was elected to the Assembly in 1991, lost a re-election bid in 1994 and won again in 1998 and every two years since, as reported in the New York Times. Cahill is a member of the Assembly’s Ways and Means Committee from the United States and Africa. He was the first Hendler Fellow in Screenwriting at the American Film Institute and was a Fulbright fellow at Stellenbosch University in South Africa. He also held positions at the American Bar Association, the World Bank and the United Nations. Cahill received a law degree from SUNY Albany Law School in 1980.

William Leonardi (Art Education) visited his collection of photo montage designs, titled “Sunreal Images,” posted for viewing at www.zbln.org/illbleonardi. Leonardi is a former award-winning recording artist, producer and cast-alumnus at 2016 Reunion Weekend, where he was honored with the arts director, finished off 2014 with a conversation with Debra (Kramer) Branitz about his new book titled “Surreal Images,” posted for his sons and currently live in Wantagh, Long Island Herald June 22, 1963, as reported by the East End Times. Leonardi is a former award-winning recording artist, producer and cast-alumnus at 2016 Reunion Weekend, where he was honored with the arts director, finished off 2014 with a concert and his SDAC grant, and was promoted to director of development for current and aspiring school administrators.

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Philip M. Berkowitz (Journalism) was a member of the SUNY New Paltz Foundation Board of Directors, organized and spoke at a panel discussion on campus on April 13, 2015. The event featured employment discrimination specialists from the United States and China in conversation about claims of discrimination and human rights violations in the workplace. It was held in conjunction with a screening of “The Rachel Project,” a documentary film by the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, as the corporate law offices of IBM Corp. and as board chairman of the University of Michigan Legal Services program. In October 2014, Berkowitz presented a reading of his original drama, “Reconciling Manhattan’s Black Box Theatre.” The play tells the story of an American diplomat and couple in the diplomatic corps stationed in Iraq in 2004, three months before that country’s first national elections. It was first presented at the Ogden Museum of Art and was produced in the New York Times. "I was the one of the local ‘kids’. A returning adult student, I was 30 when I started Yale. I had gone to Dutchess Community College across the river after getting my GED."

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Glueck (Noita) Gifford (Liberal Arts), an actress, recording artist, producer and concert director, finished off 2014 with a return to live performance as one of the founding members of his musical trio, TriLog Love.

Mary Wagnier ’57 (Elementary Education) and her husband celebrated Valentine’s Day together since their wedding on June 22, 1963, as reported by the Long Island Herald. They have two sons and currently live in Wbang, N.Y.

Linda Eaton in the area of student judicial matters.

Stuart Garber (Biology) has developed a line of condition-specific, all-natural formula remedies. Dr. Garber’s Natural Solutions (www.garbersonline.com) are distributed in 59 Whole Foods Markets and various retail health-food chains on the West Coast, in doctor’s offices nationwide and online. Dr. Garber is president of the California Homeopathic Medical Society and has a private practice in Santa Monica, Calif.

Christine Garry (Sociology) is a relocation specialist handling real estate in the Atlanta, Ga., area.

Warren Bickel (Psychology) is director of the Addiction Recovery Research Center in Roanoke, Va., and a professor in the Department of Psychology at Virginia Tech. He holds a master’s degree and doctoral degree from the University of Kansas. The Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research, an honorary society founded in 1978 by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, recently recognized Dr. Bickel and his work by selecting him as a fellow.

Bruce Masson (History) was named the chief public defender of Otsego County after 12 years as assistant public defender, according to The Daily Star of Oneonta, N.Y. He’s served on the Cooperstown Village Board of Trustees for the past two years and is president of the Otsego County Bar Association.

Michael Migliore (Chemistry), co-owner and co-founder with Vance Staniford-Migliore of Whitcliff Vineyard in Gardiner, N.Y., received the Governor’s Award from the New York Wine & Grape Foundation in February 2015 at the RSVP conference, as reported by Hudson Valley Wine Insider. Hudson Valley magazine has described Whitcliff as “one of the Valley’s most ambitious wineries.” This artisanal, family-run winery works with Cornell Cooperative Extension testing new grape varieties. This year it will host what will be the first Hudson River Region Cabernet Sauvignon. The Migliores recently brought home the “Best in Show” recognition for a Riesling that beat 1,279 wines from 27 countries and 28 states and was awarded 90 points from Wine Enthusiast magazine for the Caymou Noir Hudson River Region. He also manages several smaller vineyards in the Hudson Valley, Long Island and other parts of New York state.

Robert Insolia (Political Science), managing partner of leading global firm Goodwin Procter, was awarded a law degree and is currently a partner at SUNY New Paltz. Edward Renchen (Political Science) is editorial director of Dark Hall Press and released his latest book, “Night’s Harbor,” a chilling vampire novel, in 2015.

Victor Willett (Secondary Education 7-12 Social Studies) has retired after serving for 25 years as a teacher and administrator in the New York City Department of Education. He previously taught at the Church of the Holy Name of Jesus at Cathedral High School, both in Manhattan. He now lives in Henderson, Nev.

Joseph DiLorenzo ’79 (Educational Administration) 96Ens (Educational Administration) was appointed interim superintendent of schools for the Mattituck School District.

Clayton Aarons (Political Science) was appointed in September 2014 by former Maryland Governor Martin O’Malley as an associate judge of the District Court of Maryland in Prince George’s County. A graduate of Howard University School of Law, Judge Aarons has spent much of his legal career in public service, including as a captain in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps and as an assistant public defender and assistant states attorney in Prince George’s County. He maintains a solo practice in Largo, Md., where he represents clients in criminal and civil matters.

Kevin Cook (Visual Arts Education) was selected as a judge for the Village of New Paltz Historic Preservation Commission Art Contest. He is an accomplished landscape painter whose style is strongly influenced by nineteenth-century Romanticism. Cook was recently named a Painting Fellow by New York Foundation for the Arts, and the Foundation has invited him to serve on its Artist’s Advisory Committee. His work has been exhibited at the American Consulate, in Hong Kong, and the Samuel Doeby Museum of Art at SUNY New Paltz.

Ellen (Dipizotio Thaler) Zubrikis (Sociology) won a Notis award for commercial concept and music direction. She has raised her three sons as a single parent and has fully supported their careers. Kyle is a producer for sinemedia and is composing for NBA. Tim is an audio producer for NYRA Television; and Miles, who was born with Aspergers Syndrome, was in a television pilot titled “Rise Above.”

David Cedhulsom (Geology), civil engineer and licensed professional engineer (PE), has joined Tighe & Bond as a senior project manager. Cedhulsom has 26 years of experience in water resources, wastewater, stormwater and asset management, with extensive service to New Hampshire municipalities, including more than eight years as the engineer for the town of Durham’s Public Works Department. His sound understanding of the wide range of environmental challenges New England faces has led to collaborations with numerous municipalities on a wide range of initiatives involving state and federal agencies. He holds a master’s degree in civil engineering/water resources from the University of New Hampshire.

Edward Omolo (Politics) recently released his first novel, “A Kenyan Pilgrim’s Progress - from Dalai to Diaspora - My Memoirs of My Last Family.” Dr. Omolo, a well-traveled research scientist who lives in Pennsylvania with his family, is a professor of biology at New River Community and Technical College.

Donna Drake (Theatre Arts), a fourth-grade teacher in Dumont, N.J., has been awarded a National Endowment of the Humanities summer fellowship to study America’s Industrial Revolution with fellow historians and filmmakers at The Henry Ford in Dearborn, Mich.

Jessica Fains (Finance, Economics), of Easthampton, was appointed assistant secretary-general, assistant administrator and director of the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). She’s given years of distinguished service to the UNDP holding various leadership positions, most recently as deputy regional director of the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, and had previously worked in senior country director positions with UNDP and UN, where she led UNDP’s post-disaster recovery efforts after the January 2010 earthquake. Earlier in her career, she

83 Sara-Leigh (Lieberman) Higgins (Communication Studies) has entered a new market with her business, Raspberry Fields Farm. After seven years as an artisan food purveyor, she decided to turn her property into an event venue and will be offering her 150-year-old Victorian Italianate homestead in Mattituck, N.Y., for weddings, field trips and business retreats. Take a tour at www.raspberryfieldsfarm.com.

Richard Klein (Journalism, English) published his first photography book, “Massapequa: A Pastoral History Through The Eyes of Baby Boomers,” in late 2014. The collection features places around Long Island’s Massapequa and Massapequa Park areas memorable to the boomer generation. The self-published book sold out after its first printing and has led to three photography exhibits, two sponsored by the Town of Oyster Bay and another by the local library.

Edward Omolo’s Homestead in Marlboro, N.Y., offers a full-service event venue and will be open to the public, beginning with the ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sunday, Oct. 11, 2015.

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served in various roles at UNDP headquarters and in the field in such countries as Argentina, Cuba, Belize and Guyana. Fauna be- gan her career as commercial officer before rising to the rank of executive director. She holds a master’s degree in international affairs, economic develop- ment and an MBA in international finance from Columbia University. Lynsay Shabazz (Biologist), a community organizer, activist, mo- tivational speaker and author of the critically acclaimed “Growing Up X,” has written a fourth book about the legacy of her father, civil rights leader Malcolm X. Co-written with Kerla Maggie, “X: A Novel” tells the story of Malcolm’s formative years before he became Malcolm X. Details regarding her work are avail- able at www.theshabazz.com.

86 Unleashing the Beast

Lynn Johnston (Com- munication Studies, publisher) and editor of Whispering Angel Books, published a fifth anthology of inspirational short stories and poetry from the Archies & Extraordinary Blessings.”

Nadine Robbins (Graphic Design) is working on a new series of por- traits of “Bad Habits and Guilty Pleasures” for a gallery in New York. She writes: “I’m also working on my next personal art project where I will be uploading a photo design part time since my painting career is taking hold. My family is doing well. We recently moved out- side of Rhinebeck, N.Y., where my 13-year-old son just moved into a new studio space for my painting. My husband and I have been to- gether for almost 27 years. Amazed at how fast time is going.

88 Kevin Costello (Art Studies) was named head of Talent Business Management, a firm that specializes in serving the business management needs of professional entertainers. He recently launched a new podcast, “Eden Toolshed.” Focusing on how to advise and support professionals in the entertainment industry.

89 Jeffrey Pearlman (Political Science) has been appointed Chief of Staff and Coun- sel for New York’s Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul, as reported by The Times Union.

90 Catherine Chadwick (Communication Studies) was named director of the Midland Park Memorial Library in Midland Park, New Jersey, effective February 2015. She previously served as director of the Butler Public Library as a librarian in high schools in Westchester County, N.Y. and Fairfield County, Conn., and as a reference and children’s librarian at John C. Hart Memorial Library in Shrub Oak/Yorktown, N.Y. She holds a master’s in library science from Long Island University.

Jennifer Lafara (Communication Studies, English), long-time associ- ate of the firm Brackley & Plant & Schmidt LLP has been promoted to partner. She’s a member of the Westchester County Bar Associa- tion and Westchester Women’s Bar Association.

Kim Sealy (Business Administra- tion) became publisher of the Himalayas Fit Pregnancy and Natural Health, owned by America Media Inc. She has been published in Working Mother magazine, where she worked for eight years. Earlier in her career, she held management and sales positions at Teen People and Johnson Publishing Co.

92 Robert Farb (Business Administra- tion), chief fin- ancial officer of Gibbons PC, was selected as a finalist for the NJBIZ CFO of the Year Awards in the category of school business management. The award program celebrates the financial executives who contribute to New Jersey’s economic growth and stability.

93 Renée (Mascusia) Cino (Communication Studies) and Dr. Joshua Garrin (Psyc- hology) were married at an intimate ceremony in New Paltz on October 14, 2014. Their reception consisted of many of her college friends and his Zeta Beta Tau fraternity broth- ers. Renee is a self-employed virtual assistant, and Joshua is a health coach and fitness professional with a master’s degree in psychology from Pace University and a Ph.D. in health psychology from Walden University. They reside live in Marlboro, N.Y., with their daughter, Melosa.

William Koeyes (Elementary Education/N-Geography) joined North Midlands Savings Bank as vice president of learning and development. He brings more than 20 years of leadership expertise in training and employee development at the United States Postal Service and management and community banking industry to theing the Foping Ceramic Art Village in Shaanxi Province, China. Hudson Valley Almanac Weekly reported that his work has been featured in solo and group exhibitions and museum collections at the Carrier Art Mu- seum in Manchester, N.H., the Fuller Craft Museum in Brockton, Mass., and the MoMA Show NYC at the Metropolitan Pavilion. Rowan held an open-studio reception in December 2014 in Stone Ridge, N.Y., that featured work from his August and November 2014 frings.

Rubiola Sickels ’91 (Painting/Drawing) had a show of Irish lands- capes exhibited at The Squarefront Gallery in Kingston, N.Y.

95 Claire (McCay) Zuber (Business Administration) ’97g (Educational Ad- ministration) was a 2014 re- cipient of an Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) Pinnacle Award. The ASBO Pinnacle Awards recognize outstanding practices and new ideas that advance the profession of school business management. Zuber was recognized for her work as assistant superintendent for business at Osining Union Free School District in Osining, N.Y. Zuber launched a campaign to meet with representatives of key school boards in the district to communicate financial challenges facing local schools and build trust and engagement with community members, leading to the successful passage of budget referendums and high voter approval rates.

Sara Schirato (Journalism) was featured at the Fordham Institute for Women in Social Work Event, held in February 2015 at the Fordham University Graduate School of So- cial Service in New York City. She discussed her documentary short film, “Human Investment,” which focuses on social workers’ various motivations to provide human care and advocate for social change. The film was shown as the American Society on Aging 2015 Aging in America Conference in Washington, D.C. Schirato is vice president and executive director of the Hudson Valley Care Coalition in Tarrytown, N.Y. She holds master’s degrees from Columbia and Long Island Universities, has been awarded the National Association of Social Workers Social Worker of the Year Award and is a New York University Silver School of Social Work fellow- ship recipient.

97 John Schrader (Communication Media) has been invited into the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sci- ences, an organization of recording professionals widely-known as the presenters of the Grammy Awards. Schrader is now eligible to attend the Grammy party, participate in the inves- tigating process and submit his own music for Grammy consideration. His album “Duello Crashing” received the song “Shock,” which became an instrumental Association of Independent Recording Artists Top 100 single. His latest CD is “21 Summers.” Schrader also scores instrumental music for film and television, and has served on the faculty of the Media Production Department at SUNY New Paltz. He married Elizabeth Wood-Bernabe ’97g in February 2015. More information about him can be found online at www.johnschrader.com.

Elizabeth Wood-Bernabe ’97g (Special Education) was awarded a

Clairnous Goin (Business Admin- istration) returned to campus in November 2014, to participate in “Life After College: Real Life Experiences as a Person of Color in the Corporate World,” a conference hosted by the Business Association for Students of Color (BASC). She is pursuing a doctoral degree in business at Walden University and in 2015. She has worked in the financial industry for 20 years and was recently appointed vice president of compliance/BSA at the Bank of Millbrook. 

Judi Emmond (Visual Arts & Digital Photography) ’09g (Art Studies) is the new owner of Hudson Valley Pottery in Rhine- beck, N.Y., a ceramics and pottery studio for adults and children.

Louis Petton (Contrast-Liberal Arts & Science) is the new head coach and competitive aquatic director at Upper Main Line YMCA (ULMY) in Berwyn, Pa. SwimSwim.com re- ports that he brings years of experi- ence as the head coach at the Ocean County YMCA in Toms River, N.J. to his new position.

Mathew Swendloff ’95g (Elemen- tary Education) ‘01cas (Educational Administration) spent a month as a lecturer in the Education Depart- ment at Vista- Bharati University in India, an experience made pos- sible thanks to a Fulbright grant. Swendloff, who is a dean in the College of Education from Western Connecti- cut State University, blogged about his trip online at http://swendloff. org/31days.

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Craig McGuire (Journalism) re- leased his latest book, “Beyond the Ieds – Why March is the Unlucki- est Month of All” (www.Beyon- dthedIes.com). The book was pub- lished by Strategic Media Books, Inc., and chronicles sudden twists of historical bad luck that occurred during the months of March, including assassinations, epic disasters and bizarre celebrity deaths.

92 25th Reunion

Erik Leckham (Psycholog- y) is owner of Tidem Business Management, a firm that specializes in serving the business management needs of professional entertainers. He recently launched a new podcast, “Eden Toolshed.” Focusing on how to advise and support professionals in the entertainment industry.
Marco Maggi '98g represents Uruguay at the 2015 Venice Biennale

New Paltz-based Uruguayan artist Marco Maggi ‘98g (Painting) is representing Uruguay in the 2015 Venice Biennale, a major contemporary art showcase that takes place once every two years in Venice, Italy.

Maggi’s exhibition, Global Myopia II, is scheduled to run through November 2015. He installed a solo show in two Galeria Cayon spaces. He considered the exhibition as a chance to make time visible,” said Maggi. “The strain and acceleration, the only barrier to my exhibition is the painstaking detail and complexity.

Maggi splits time between New Paltz and Montevideo, Uruguay. His artwork and approach is known best for its use of commonplace materials such as aluminum foil, apple skins, acid-free office paper, and conves mirrors as the basis for his creations. Marco Maggi’s work is exhibited in the gallery walls during the event.

At the September 2014 Venice Biennale, Maggi’s exhibition, Global Myopia II, is scheduled to run through November 2015. Upon her return home in early November, Papi was protected in a story by the Times Weekly Advocate, which reported that she joined the Navy in 2002 and was commissioned in the Naval Reserve in October 2011. Before entering military service, she served as an editor with The Times Herald-Record and wrote a weekly column on local running, skydiving, hiking, mountain climbing, triathlons and other athletic activities.

New Paltz-based Uruguayan artist Marco Maggi’s (Painting) exhibition is titled “Ninth Grade Transition: A Step to Effective Lifelong Learning.” She graduated with honors from Kappa Delta Pi and the Golden Key Honor Society.

Maggi’s work has been exhibited extensively throughout the United States, Europe, and Latin America. He represented Uruguay in the 2002 Stockholm Biennale, and his works have been shown in institutions including El Museo del Barrio, the Whitney Museum, and the Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporáneo in Mexico City. The artist’s exhibition “From Huguenot to Mi-crowave: New and Recent Works” by Marco Maggi ‘98g was featured at The Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art in 2011. He also has solo shows planned for Plains and New York City this fall.

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Attempts to detach the two basic elements of drawing, paper and pencil, and split the act of drawing into two distinct stages. For the exhibition, Maggi was challenged to create a minimalist presentation that could travel in a carry-on suitcase to Madrid. His inventive solution was to assemble a portable kit composed of 10,000 alphabetic shapes, cut out of self-adhesive paper on his table in New Paltz, which

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Celebration included a cake adorned with a wheel, and Riehl surprised her guests by handing out keys. Just a few years earlier, she might not have won the $32,000 in the bonus round.

“I was absolutely blown away,” she said. “I was actually more nervous that day than I had been being interviewed. That’s when the reality of it all hit me.”

Though she hadn’t decided how she would use her winnings, Riehl said she already had a great deal of experience competing on the game show.

“If I feel beyond amazing, I wouldn’t have changed a thing,” she said. “As a family, we have dreams that they never fulfilled. This experience has taught me to listen to that inner voice more often, try some things that are out of my comfort zone, and not to be intimidated or afraid to fail.”


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John Lee (Secondary Education 7-12 Mathematics) and his wife, Bice Lee White ‘05, (Anthropology), welcomed twin girls, Sophie and Catherine, on August 28, 2014. Both are professors, and both girls are healthy and thriving.

Alexander Marrero (Music) serves as executive director of the Rockland Youth Orchestras and the new executive director of the Southern Hudson Valley Youth Symphony. His conducting debut with the Symphony on May 4, 2014 featured undergraduate and graduate students from the Manhattan School of Music and the Juilliard School of Music.

David Sela (Biology), a principal investigator and faculty member in the Department of Food Science at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, visited campus in October 2014 to deliver a lecture titled “Nurturing Our Microbial Selves: Breast Milk’s Influence on the Infant Microbiome.” He previously worked with the Food and Agriculture Institute (FFHE) at the University of California, Davis, where he earned a doctoral degree in microbiology and master’s degree in food biology. He was a member of the Milk Biosciences and Functional Glyobiology Program at the FFHE and became a postdoctoral researcher with fellow founding graduate student.

Kevin Smith (Public Relations) joined Berkshire Hills Bancorp, Inc. as vice president, wealth advisor, and chief strategy officer. Smith is also a board member of the Essex Planning Council of Eastern New York and the Schenectady Community Home.

Aimee (Bodros) Lecair (Psychology) earned a doctoral degree in psychology from Long Island University and has held several information and record management positions with pharmaceutical companies.

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Alumnus pays if forward through student internships

Mohammed Serdah ‘07 (Accounting) understands that a working relationship is most likely to produce mutual benefit if it is founded on teamwork and trust. It’s a lesson he learned during a challenging final semester at SUNY New Paltz.

“My interns have helped me question why we do things the way we do.”

Today, Serdah has his own accounting firm in New Paltz, Serdah Consultants, and he is paying forward the support he received by offering internships to the next generation of students.

Sarah Allosh ‘15 (Accounting) interned with Serdah Consultants during her final semester at New Paltz. Her experience allowed her to develop skills with bookkeeping systems and filing personal and business income tax returns.

“I wanted to get experience in the field I’m pursuing before I gradu- ated,” Allosh said. “I also wanted to make sure this kind of work is the right fit for me. An internship can help solidify your interest in your chosen career.”

Serdah is proud to be able to give back to his alma mater by creating opportunities for students, but just like those late night study sessions at the library, working together with interns offers real benefits for him as well.

“I have great confidence in the abil- ity of New Paltz students to perform at a high level,” Serdah said. “My interns have helped me question why we do things the way we do, and have helped improve and streamline various processes. I’m starting to look at them breathe into the business a sort of work ethic only found in young professionals hungry for opportunity and knowledge. I’m proud to say that my interns can leave this company feeling confident in the work they’ve done and ready to work for any CPA firm in the country.”

Allosh’s internship experience is helping her develop exactly that kind of confidence. “I’m starting to look for jobs,” she said, “and lots of companies say they prefer one or three years of experience. I’m proud to say I’m going to have that when I graduate.”

IBM; they reside in Zelienople, Pa. She earned a doctor of veterinary medicine degree from Ross Univer- sity and is a veterinarian at Elbeed Animal Hospital. They reside in Zelienople, Pa.

Bianca Conway Thermally has his own accounting firm in New Paltz, Serdah Consultants, and he is paying forward the support he received by offering internships to the next generation of students.

“Theory is always key when learning material,” said Serdah. “But life experience and applying it to the real world of business makes a difference, too.”

Among the business students at that time, those of us who were accounting majors were a tight group, especially toward the end,” said Serdah. “During that semester we all came together at the library and studied late into the night. We stayed until closing for two weeks straight and it was worth it when we all passed. I remember looking for each of them at gradu- ation and saying, ‘We did it together!’”

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Serdah wants to help his former students to perform at a high level, but he also wants to make sure that the kind of work is the right fit for them. An internship can help solidify one’s interest in their chosen career.

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Submit your Class Notes today!

Enjoy reading about what your classmates have been up to? They want to hear about you, too! Let fellow alumni know about your latest life changes, professional accomplishments, interests, or anecdotes.

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tax: 845.257.3951
Submit online at www.newpaltz.edu/magazine/
Notes submitted online are viewable immediately and remain posted for up to 3 months, as well as being included in the next edition of “New Paltz Magazine,” so submit today.

Carmen ’09 (Psychology): ’13g (Psychology). Guitar is pursuing a doctoral degree in biological anthropology at SUNY Binghamton and is teaching undergraduate courses in evolutionary medicine. She is a recipient of “Outstanding Student Presentation” awards from both the Feminist Evolutionary Psychology Society and the Northeastern Evolutionary Psychology Society.

Maureen McCourt ’13g (Sculpture) joined Pilkham Art Center, Pilkham, N.Y., as education and outreach manager.

Amanda Rivero ’11g (Literacy Education B-6) is a special education teacher for the New Paltz Central School District. She had her engagement to Matthew DeMarco announced in the Daily Freeman. A June 2016 wedding is planned.

Savannah Blum (Sculpture) premiered her documentary film, “Home in Detroit,” at the Rosendale Theater in April 2014. The documentary resulted from her summer 2013 SURE research project, for which she was mentored by Professor Emily Puthoff.

David Straw (Geology) joined Spectra Environmental Group Inc. in Latham, N.Y., as a junior environmental scientist. Poststar.com reports that the company provides high quality services in environmental, geology, solid waste, air quality, and transportation industries.

Andrew Hamill ’14g (Sculpture) was awarded the prestigious Skowhegan Artist Residency and spent the summer of 2014 in Maine.

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Liberty Mutual is a proud partner of SUNY New Paltz.

Submit your Class Notes today!

OCTOBER 24
Los Angeles alumni event at home of Robert Kyncl ’95 and Luz Avila-Kyncl ’96

NOVEMBER
7: Chicago alumni event at home of Michael Boccio ’83 and Sophia Boccio
20: Global Orange & Blue Day (worldwide) Meet-ups organized by alumni volunteers in various locations (see back cover)

DECEMBER 1
Giving Tuesday (worldwide)

JANUARY, 2016
30: Sarasota, Fla., alumni event 31: Naples-Fort Myers, Fla., alumni event (Cape Coral) at home of Ted Clark (see page 22)

FEBRUARY 3
Fort Lauderdale-area alumni event (West Palm Beach, Fla.)

MARCH 21
Washington, D.C. alumni-student mixer

APRIL
16: Alumni Night at the Theatre: "Parade" (campus)
28: Distinguished Speaker Series: Robert Kyncl ’95 (campus)

SEPTEMBER 20–OCTOBER 2
2016 Alumni Weekend & Reunion (campus)
“It is the secret of the world that all things subsist and do not die, but only retire from sight and afterwards return again.” — Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803–1882)

1930–1939 Ms. Irene Shipman-Chaffee ’38
1940–1949 Mrs. Eleanor (Paterson) Stapinski ’45, Mrs. Anne (Cassida) Stasiango ’49
1950–1959 Mr. Bruce V. Schneider ’52, Mrs. Marston (Garriott) Bridge ’57
1960–1969 Mr. Robert J. Belcast ’63, Ms. Brian E. Jekkle ’69, Ms. Grace A. Pepper ’69, Ms. Diome Prakelt ’69
1970–1979 Mr. Douglas Poyourow ’70
1980–1989 Mrs. Katharine Virga ’82, Ms. Mary E. Denny ’83, Mr. Carlos R. Flores ’85, Mr. Paul G. McKenzie ’85, Ms. Joanna Stiergermüller ’82 ’87
1990–1999 Ms. Nancy C. Wood ’92, Mr. Craig Schiffer ’93
Former Student Ms. Elinor H. Stainley
Faculty & Staff Professor Victor Landau, Mr. Brian L. Inkeles ’69, Ms. Natalie J. Robisch, Ms. Helen M. Liucci
Emeritus Professor Burton Bernstein
Emeritus Professor Burton Bernstein (Physics) graduated with a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Brooklyn College in 1942 and held a master’s degree in physics from Columbia University and Ph.D. in physics from MIT. In 1946, he joined the New Paltz faculty, and after more than 30 years with the College, he retired in 1998. Bernstein was a member of the Jewish Community Center, Temple Beth-El and the Beacon Hebrew Alliance for many years.

David Goldknopf
Emeritus Professor David Goldknopf (English) received a B.S. cum laude in philosophy from New York University and a Ph.D. in English Literature from Syracuse University. After working at Bennett College, Goldknopf became a professor of English at SUNY New Paltz where his wife, Irma, also served as a professor.

In 1943 during World War II, Goldknopf was drafted into the military and joined the Army Air Force where he served as a radio and communications officer for the storied 368th Fighter Group. After the war he lived in New York City, freelancing and writing fiction including numerous short stories and a novel, “Hills on the Highway” in 1948. In 1972, he published “The Life of the Novelist,” a well-received work of literary criticism.

Richard Impola
Emeritus Professor Richard Impola (English) graduated from Cobamet High School in Cobamet, Mich. After high school, he was inducted into the U.S. Army. He served in the European Theater in World War II and was wounded twice, earning a Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster. After leaving the Army, he enrolled at Columbia University where he earned a BA and MA, and later a Ph.D. He came to SUNY New Paltz in 1963 and taught at the College until his retirement in 1983.

After retiring, he began translating Finnish poetry and novels into English. His translations were published in the United States and Canada, and the Finnish government recognized his dedication by awarding him the medal of Knight First Class of the Order of the Lion of Finland at the Finnish Embassy in Washington, D.C. in 2003.

Dale L. Stein
Distinguished Teaching Professor (Art) Dale L. Stein earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Carnegie Institute of Technology’s College of Fine Arts. In 1961, he joined the faculty at SUNY New Paltz, during which time he developed a love for the Catskill Mountain region and its history. In 1973, he was one of nine of the SUNY faculty awarded the title of Distinguished Teaching Professor and the only one in art.

Stein was a designer and illustrator for Norcross greetings cards in New York for 11 years, but his teaching career of 25 years was his true passion. Most of his works are in private collections, including that of the former drawing curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. In 1985, he completed a series of landscape paintings of 53 small towns in Ulster County, forming an exhibition entitled “Chorographs.”

For more than 40 years, from playing Santa at Barkers Department Store in New Paltz to directing psychological services of the school programs at Kennedy Krieger Institute, Dr. John T. Beeter ’74 ’76g has put young people first. Last year, he took that commitment a little further when, in anticipation of his retirement, he assigned The SUNY New Paltz Foundation as the beneficiary of one of his charitable gift annuities, joining the Tower Society.

Annuity assignments effectively move the value of that annuity out of the donor’s estate, simplifying probate and saving the heirs the tax liability associated with the annuity distribution. In addition, annuities may have multiple beneficiaries. To learn more about how an annuity assignment could help you achieve your estate goals, contact Nick Rama, senior development officer, at 845-257-2602.

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