



Empire State College

ALUMNI AND STUDENT NEWS

VOLUME 30 • NUMBER 2 • SPRING 2005

ALUMNI MAKING THEIR MARK

Their Passion, Their Vision,
Their Lives

DONORS REPORT

ALUMNI TRAVEL PROGRAM

C o n t e n t s

FEATURES

Upfront	1
Poet Alice Fulton	3
Jazz Musician Kenny Barron	4
Vocalist Laurel Massé	4
Journalist, Documentary Photographer Lorna Tychostup	5
PR Practitioner Rose-Marie Armstrong	6
Journalist, Original Anchor of CNN Bill Zimmerman	6
Author, Journalist Deborah Gregory	7
University of Buffalo Basketball Coach Reggie Witherspoon	8
Dancer, Journalist, Editor Wendy Perron	8
President and COO Richard Sager	9
President and CEO Brenda Copeland	10
President and CEO Carol Evans	11
Company President and CEO Christopher Calisi	11
Cover Story: Entrepreneur, Inventor and CEO Clifford Gross	12
Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, Department of Defense Daniel Stanley	14
Assemblyman Mark J. Schroeder	15
Civil Rights Attorney Helen Ullrich	16
U.S. Representative Ginny Brown-Waite	17
Assemblyman Gary Finch	18
Member of House of Commons, Canada, Walt Lastewka	18
Assemblyman Luis M. Diaz	19
Director, New York State Emergency Management Office James Tuffey	19
Infant Development Expert, Philanthropist Susan Turben	20
Activist Marcia Pappas	21
Assemblyman and Labor Leader Brian M. McLaughlin	22
Community Activist, City Council Member Gladys Santiago	22
President, Communications Workers of America Morton Bahr	23
President of the New York State AFL-CIO Denis Hughes	24

INSIDE
BACK
COVER



**NEW - Travel Abroad Program:
Visit Vienna and Prague**

Empire State College DAY AT THE RACES

Joseph Moore

President

Kirk Starczewski

Director of College Relations
Publisher

Kirk.Starczewski@esc.edu

Maureen Winney

Director of Alumni and Student Relations
Managing Editor

Maureen.Winney@esc.edu

Hope Ferguson

Community Relations Associate
Editor

Hope.Ferguson@esc.edu

Gael Fischer

Director of Publications/Designer

Debra Park

Secretary, Office of College Relations
Alumni News and Copy Editor

CONTRIBUTORS

Janet Aiello-Cerio

Alumni and Student Relations

Kim Berry

Director of Gift Planning/
Campaign Coordinator

Jeremy Jones

Executive Director,
Empire State College Foundation

Renelle Shampeny

Director of Marketing

WRITERS

Hope Ferguson

Laura Arpey

PHOTOGRAPHY

Mel Rosenthal

Beatriz Schiller and **Len Irish**,
courtesy of *Dance Magazine*

Tom Bushey, courtesy of
The Times Herald-Record

All other photos courtesy of our alumni

PRODUCTION

Jerry Cronin

Director of Management Service

Ron Kosiba

Print Shop Supervisor

Janet Jones

Keyboard Specialist

College Print Shop

Central Services

Empire State College Alumni and Student News
is published by the Office of College Relations at
Empire State College
One Union Avenue

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-4391

518 587-2100 ext. 250 • www.esc.edu

Past the Headline

By Melba Tolliver '98

The function of any great news headline is to make readers, listeners and viewers sit up and take notice. And you might say that the notable women and men we celebrate in this issue of our alumni and student news magazine serve that same purpose. They are our headliners, our bold face names; their biographies and achievements pique our interest just enough to keep us reading on.

Representing various years in the college's extraordinary lifetime, they were selected by the faculty, staff and friends. And as you read through the list you'll see that their accomplishments are wide-ranging – in the arts, politics and law, public and community service, journalism, sports, business and technology, education and labor. Past the headline and within the details of individual successes, is the Empire State College story. Like the old notion of the world in a grain of sand, each of our notables *is* Empire State College. And that's also true about the rest of us.



Melba Tolliver

Don't be surprised to find that you know some of the notables personally. Because if one thing can be said about our headliners it is that they are not strangers to us. Not distant celebrities or people famous for being famous. Some on the list may have graduated from your center. Maybe one of them introduced you to the college. Perhaps you shared a mentor with one or more of them. Or were enrolled in the same study group. It could be that someone on the list is your neighbor or your best friend. For me, two names stand out. I co-anchored the news with one. And another was the first person to tell me about Empire State College. Our conversation stayed in the back of my mind for nearly three decades before I enrolled and got to work on completing my degree. I still marvel at how my mentor managed to match me up with just the right faculty member and study group for each of my courses.

Something else about our notables, they – like most of us – set aside their formal education for one reason or another, then at some point down the road, circled back to pick it up again, seeking the best of public institutions for adult learners, and continued on their journeys. Our notables continue to demonstrate the possibilities and the value of adult education even as they go about distinguishing themselves in their diverse communities of interest.

When a law professor, who also is an Empire State College alumna, brings her unique learning experience to her teaching, her students – whether they know it or not – are getting a lesson in quality adult education and the commitment an individual has made to obtain it. And if word gets around that the CEO of a leading technology company is an Empire State College graduate ... well it's no surprise if people who know him begin wanting to know more about how he juggled work, family, social and civic responsibilities while completing an undergraduate degree at one of the first and most successful experiments ever in adult education.

(continued on page 2)

Past the Headline

(continued from page 1)

“ The planning, the prodding, the strategizing, the deliberating, the fund raising, the prioritizing, the persuading, the site-selecting, the bookkeeping, the advocating, the socializing, the appointing, the inviting, the budgeting, the explaining, the investing, the conferencing, the awarding, the upgrading, the expanding, the consulting, the acknowledging, the smoothing over, the appreciating, the overcoming – all in the service of making student-centered, mentor-supported, faculty-guided, curriculum-appropriate, technologically-advanced, outside-the-box learning opportunities available for education-seeking adults.”

Notice as you read through the list how far back it goes – 1972, the year one of our notables was among the college’s first three graduates. From then until now the success stories have grown as steadily as the ranks of alumni and students. But again, that’s the headline. The full story lies in the life details, in the hows and whys of the individual challenges met by our 45,000 alumni and our nearly 16,000 currently enrolled students. What’s more, we can’t overstate the importance of what one of the college’s most generous donors says is the “vision” of those who have kept the college focused on the students and on the ever-evolving future.

I confess that it was only after I joined the foundation board three years ago that I began to appreciate the magnitude of the “vision” – that is to say the power of imagination – that created Empire State College and that keeps it going. The planning, the prodding, the strategizing, the deliberating, the fund raising, the prioritizing, the persuading, the site-selecting, the bookkeeping, the advocating, the socializing, the appointing, the inviting, the budgeting, the explaining, the investing, the conferencing, the awarding, the upgrading, the expanding, the

consulting, the acknowledging, the smoothing over, the appreciating, the overcoming – all in the service of making student-centered, mentor-supported, faculty-guided, curriculum-appropriate, technologically-advanced, outside-the-box learning opportunities available for education-seeking adults. Whew! And all of this even as state tax support for the college is declining and costs to keep it going – including tuition – keep rising.

So, you see why your financial support is vital to the vision. And, deeply appreciated. Why all of us who can claim an Empire State College experience must pass it on. Share it; make it accessible to all motivated adult learners while we continue writing the story that supports the headlines.

Please, read on. And do take us up on the invitation to keep us informed of your achievements and activities.

Melba Tolliver '98, is an award-winning journalist who has anchored ABC's Eyewitness News in NYC, News 12 Long Island, and has written for print media, including USA Today.



President Moore greets a new graduate.



MEL ROSENTHAL

Poet Alice Fulton '78

Northeast Center

When she attended Empire State College in her early 20s, poet and “genius award” winner Alice Fulton ’78, was already recognized by her peers and professors as something more than a student poet. Younger at 22 than most Empire State College students when she enrolled, she calls her years at the college “the happiest and most creative years of my life.”

She has been prolifically creative in the decades since her graduation. Her work has appeared in such places as *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Paris Review*, *New Republic*, and in six editions of *The Best American Poetry Series*.

Although she only wrote her first serious poem while studying women poets at the college, she went on to publish in a number of small journals with names like the *Washout Review* before graduation.

Today, the Cornell professor of English and Troy native is described as one of the finest poets of her generation. Her literary efforts include award-winning short stories and an ever-growing roster of acclaimed books of poetry, including

her latest, *Cascade Experiment* (W.W. Norton, 2004), a compilation of selected poems from her previous five books. The *Atlantic Monthly* notes that *Cascade Experiment* “amply demonstrates not only Fulton’s broad range of interests, but also her continual and evolving sense of how to use the seemingly most insignificant details to illuminate the nuances of difficult moral ideas.” *Felt*, published in 2001 (W.W. Norton), was lauded as one of the “Best Books of 2001,” by the *Los Angeles Times*, as well as being recognized with the 2002 Rebekah Johnson Bobbitt National Prize for Poetry from the Library of Congress, given on behalf of the nation in recognition of the most distinguished book of poetry written by an American during the preceding two years.

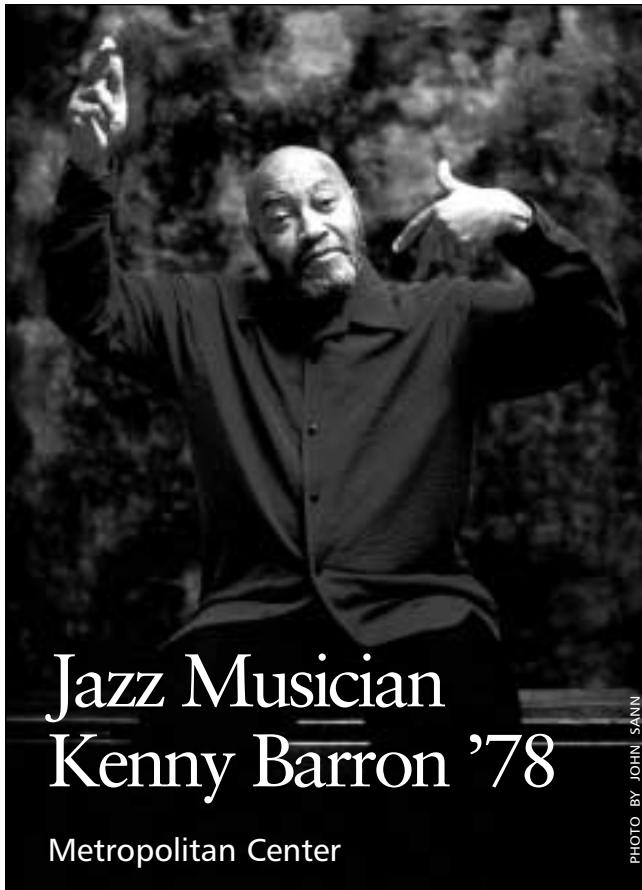
Fulton read a “memoir in poems” at Empire State College’s 2005 All College Conference. Accompanied by her husband, Hank De Leo, Fulton, a tiny woman with a cascade of reddish-brown hair and dressed simply in a pale beige linen pant suit, shared her love of Dickinson, Whitman and Ammons (as well as her reasons for being a vegetarian)

at a concurrent session after her reading. Dickinson, her favorite poet, is, she explained, “difficult, but straightforward. The depth of emotion appeals to me. I started reading her in grade school. Much of her life was depressed and lonely; so she spoke to what I was going through. I have a real affinity with the fact that she lived in such solitude, and I am very solitary. I need time to be alone to think.” It is Dickinson’s “complexities of syntax ... the way that she uses silence and deletions, that I really like,” she added.

As for Fulton, she composes in an orderly sequence, she said, writing, and then polishing a poem line by line. “I used to never revise,” she admitted, “so it was hard for me to teach my students how to revise. My process was very linear – line 1, line 2, line 3, they were all finished before I went on.” Lately, she said, her process is more like doing collage.

Fulton, who has been a recipient of a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Fellowship (popularly known as the genius award), was also given an honorary degree from the State University of New York during an Empire State College graduation ceremony in 1994.

Fulton is now working on a short fiction collection, and also will soon publish a new book of poems, although she has yet to write most of them, she said. However, she has a comfortable relationship with her editor at Norton, and is not forced to meet contract deadlines or shop new books around to various publishers. Instead, “I’ll say to my editor, I think I have a book, and she’ll say, that’s wonderful!” □



Jazz Musician Kenny Barron '78

Metropolitan Center

PHOTO BY JOHN SANN

Kenny Barron has been named “one of the top jazz pianists in the world” by the *Los Angeles Times* and “the most lyrical piano player of our time” by *Jazz Weekly*. With five Grammy nominations to his name, he has consistently won plaudits and awards from such arbiters of the style as *Downbeat*, *JazzTimes* and the Jazz Journalists Association, who has named him best pianist every year since 1997. A Philadelphia native, Barron has been playing the piano since the age of 12. He received international attention while touring with the Dizzy Gillespie group, which then led to working with jazz musicians such as Freddie Hubbard, Buddy Rich, Yusef Lateef and Ron Carter. Throughout the '80s, Barron toured with Stan Getz, and he remains in demand as a pianist by musicians who appreciate his “elegant playing.” Barron developed an interest in Latin and Caribbean rhythms while playing with Gillespie, and his latest CD, *Canta Brasil*, with Trio De Paz, is a reflection of this. According to his web site, Barron was convinced to return to college by fellow musician Lateef, earning a degree in the arts from Empire State College in 1978. He was a tenured professor of music at Rutgers from 1973 to 2000, mentoring such musical luminaries as Terence Blanchard and Regina Bell.

Vocalist Laurel Massé '05

Hudson Valley Center

Laurel Massé – co-founder of the Manhattan Transfer, a jazz vocal group with a meteoric rise in the 1970s, has a voice that has been called “luminous,” “full-bodied” and “idiosyncratic” ranging from a “melting tenor sax” to the edge of soprano.

The Holland, Michigan native became the self-described “original redhead” in the Grammy-award winning quartet, when, while working as a waitress, she by chance got into a cab driven by musician Tim Hauser, who was looking to start up a vocal group. With the addition of singers Janis Siegel and Alan Paul, the Manhattan Transfer was born, and went on to record a number of Grammy-winning albums and to tour nationally and around the globe.

Singing with the group from 1972 to 1979, Massé left to recuperate from an automobile accident. After a sabbatical in the Adirondack Mountains, she has since gone on to forge a career as a soloist who has performed at well-known venues such as Carnegie Hall, Salle Pleyel in Paris, the Smithsonian Institution and the governor’s mansion in Albany. She has won glowing reviews in such publica-

tions as *The New York Times*, *People* and *The Village Voice*. After seeing her perform at the Hollywood Roosevelt, a critic at the *Los Angeles Times* proclaimed, “she didn’t just sing the songs, she lived them, and in doing so she held the audience in such dramatic suspension that they had no choice but to live them with her.”

Today Massé is known as one of the finest interpreters of song of her generation. Performing in clubs and concert halls nationally and internationally, she also hosted *The Laurel Massé Show* on WAMC Northeast Public Radio from 2002 to 2004,

*(continued
on page 24)*





Journalist, Documentary Photographer Lorna Tychostup '99

Hudson Valley Center

Lorna Tychostup's hope for peace has led her to document what she terms "the most conspicuous crisis" of our time – war-torn Iraq. Tychostup, senior political editor for *Chronogram* magazine, a progressive publication based in the mid-Hudson Valley, has traveled to Iraq four times – once before the war, and finally, last January, where she witnessed the Iraqi elections. She continues to chronicle, in word and image, the everyday lives of ordinary Iraqis in the midst of extraordinary times. Tychostup, who admits she was against the war, said she has learned that the situation in Iraq cannot be viewed through the polarized lens of American politics.

Tychostup's reputation is built on her ability to report stories that go beyond mainstream media coverage. During her trips to Iraq, she chose to get as close to the people as possible. Living in modest, unprotected hotels and traveling in beat-up cabs, she found her way from the ordinary people in the street, to the squatters living in bombed-out, government-owned properties, to high-ranking state ministers and judges of the new Iraq who have chosen to participate at incredible risk to their lives. Her

haunting photographs and poignant stories enable her audiences to share the tragedy, the struggle and the triumph of the various communities that make up the Iraqi people.

The photographs posted on her web site: www.LornaTychostup.com, demonstrate this. In a series of photos of a wedding party, the bride, with a shy/proud expression on her face, is shown in Western dress, as she clutches a



Lorna Tychostup learning the story of the country firsthand in Iraq.

bouquet of red roses; in another, the groom beams proudly in the mirror, and later, a guest is seen swinging half of his body out of a moving vehicle on the way to the wedding in an expression of unadulterated joy.

Another photograph shows an older man holding his young child while displaying a finger stained with the purple ink that shows that he has voted.

Tychostup brings these images to colleges and other organizations across the U.S., via a Powerpoint presentation containing over 150 photos titled, "Looking Into the Eyes of the Enemy – The War You Won't See on TV." As part of the presentation, Tychostup takes

people on a journey to Iraq and attempts to explain the complexities of life there today. Her work has appeared in *Foreign Policy*, *YES!*, *Z Magazine*, *Covert Action Quarterly*, *War Times* and *Major League Baseball Magazine*. She has been interviewed frequently, on both radio and TV, including Fox's *Hannity & Colmes* and NBC's *Nightly News* with Tom Brokaw.

Tychostup believes that much can be learned from the meeting of Iraq and the Western world. "This coming together of cultures can contribute to the healing of

the planet, as well as individual lives," she says. "I have fallen in love with a country and its people, and in the process I am rediscovering my own innocence. I could not *not* go back." □

PR Practitioner Rose-Marie Armstrong '74

Metropolitan Center

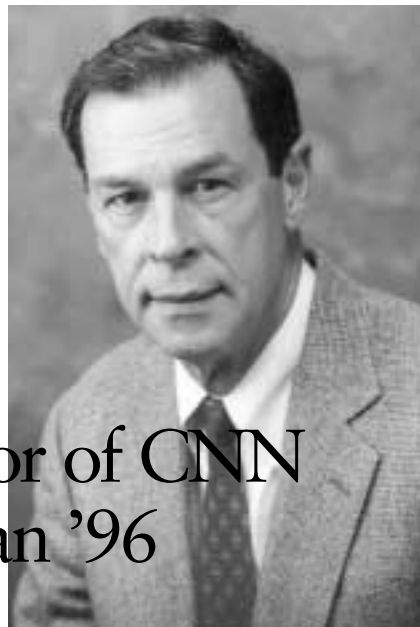
Magazine writer, public relations whiz, advertising executive, administrator of a faith-based program, Rose-Marie Armstrong has variously worn all of these hats, but the common thread in her life is that she enjoys doing things to serve others. "Generally, that's the kind of person I am," she explains.

A former fashion and beauty editor for *Brides* and *Essence* magazines, Armstrong has, over the years, contributed to several magazines including *New Woman*,



Christian Century, *US*, *McGraw Hill Travel Guide*, *WorldWide Reports*, as well as *Brides* and *Essence*, in addition to working as a senior account executive for Ayer Advertising. From 1987 to 1989, she was an appointee to the New York State Division for Youth, where she served as director of community relations. She moved on, from 1990-1999, to become area director for Prison Fellowship Ministries in the Washington, D.C. area. The ministry, founded by the convicted Watergate figure Chuck Colson, who became born again in prison, equips churches with resources to volunteer and minister in prisons across the nation and around the globe.

(continued on next page)



Journalist, Original Anchor of CNN Bill Zimmerman '96

Long Island Center

Veteran journalist Bill Zimmerman's illustrious career has taken him across the United States and around the globe as an ABC bureau chief and Washington correspondent. He has covered stories as diverse as wars and presidential campaigns, the election of a pope and the death of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. Zimmerman has filed reports with datelines such as Capetown, South Africa, Port Said, Egypt, DaNang, South Vietnam, Beirut, Lebanon and Washington, D.C. Assigned as bureau chief in Lebanon, Zimmerman recalls arriving when that city was known as "the Paris of the Middle East." Within one year, it was embroiled in an ugly civil war. Such mercurial changes were all in a day's work for Zimmerman.

In 1980, Zimmerman helped make television news history as one of two original primetime anchors (with Kathleen Sullivan) on a nascent CNN.

Zimmerman began his career as a DJ for a radio station in Richmond, Virginia in 1961. After making his own documentary about John Glenn's orbital flight, he was recruited by a local news station. In his 35-year career, Zimmerman saw news grow from the basic five-minutes local, five-minutes weather, five-minutes of sports to the virtually 24-hour news cycle as pioneered by CNN. More recently, he was the driving force behind the creation of News 12 Long Island, the first regional all-news cable channel.

One of the highlights of Zimmerman's career was being in on the start of the cable news network. According to Reese Schonfeld, in his book *Me and Ted Against the World: The Unauthorized Story of the Founding of CNN*, Turner had no interest in news and no liquid money, but since other cable networks were already doing movies and sports, he turned to Schonfeld to remake the news landscape as we knew it. So Schonfeld recruited names like Lou Dobbs, Bernard Shaw, Daniel Schorr, a fresh-from-college Katie Couric, and Zimmerman, among others. "When CNN started it was sort of a band of renegades," Zimmerman, recalled in a phone interview from his Long Island home. "I went there from being a correspondent at ABC, so it was like going from first class to steerage - we got an opportunity to do everything!"

Bill Zimmerman has received a New York Emmy, a Houston International Film Festival Gold Award, and been named the Long Island Press Club's Outstanding Journalist of the Year. Semi-retired, he currently heads Bill Zimmerman Communications, producing occasional cable television and informational video programs. □

Author, Journalist Deborah Gregory '86

Metropolitan Center

T rue story: Two little girls, ages 6 and 7, are presented matching outfits with leopard trim on the skirts at their joint birthday party. Immediately, one squealed, Cheetah Girls! That's what's called "brand recognition," and that's what Deborah Gregory has achieved with her hit *Cheetah Girls* series of books. The now 14-book series (Disney Publishing Worldwide) is geared to preteens ages 8-12, and was adapted into an original Disney movie produced by Whitney Houston's Brownstone Productions in 2003. Now there's even more for the group's growing number of young fans: *The Cheetah Girls Supa Star Scrapbook* (Disney books) came out in May. *The Cheetah Girls Bindup* (books 13-16) *Off the Hook!* (Disney publishing) will hit the shelves in September. Also, Gregory reports that plans for a Cheetah Girls movie sequel are in the works. Not only that, but the Cheetah Girls soundtrack is Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) certified platinum, and has to date sold 1.4 million copies. In 2001, Gregory was recognized with the 2001 Blackboard Children's Book of the Year for the *Cheetah Girls*.

In the series, Gregory, a former fashion model, chronicles the growing pains of five ninth-grade girls who are looking for stardom through their Destiny's Child-style singing group. According to Gregory's web site, the "message is simple: Pounce on your dreams and make them come true ... These five fierce divettes-in-training are gonna pounce, of course, when they finally get discovered and signed for that Beyoncé-sized record deal. But while they're trying to hone their musical chops, these singing sensations learn all about the joys and challenges of growing up and getting along."

Besides her Cheetah Girls projects, Gregory says she is currently at work on an adult novel, *Leopard Lives*, "about a girl who grows up in the foster care system in New York City, becomes involved in the underworld, then reinvents herself to wholeness."

Gregory got her start by writing a beauty column for *Essence*, and has gone on to write for *Redbook*, *Seventeen*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Vibe*, *More* and *Grace* magazines. But it is the *Cheetah Girls* series that has really put Gregory on the map as a writer. And that seems only fitting for a former foster child with a love of books.

"You know, the most glamorous thing to me is a book," Gregory says. "Maybe it has something to do with my foster mother being illiterate. As much as I love movies, as much as I love clothes, there's something about a book I have tremendous respect for. No movie can compare to the power of a book; to something on the written page." □



Rose-Marie Armstrong

(continued from page 6)

"My guiding philosophy is Jesus Christ, but not everyone believes. So I think you must have a strong moral foundation regardless of your beliefs – and you have to be faithful to it. People tend to compromise. I think you cannot compromise if you want to build a strong foundation," she says.

After graduating from Empire State College's Metropolitan Center, Armstrong went on to earn two master's degrees, one in journalism, from Columbia University in 1975, and a second, in faith and culture, from Trinity International University in 2002. In 2001, she became a fellow at the C.S. Lewis Institute. Lately, Armstrong, who is semi-retired, has turned her attention to her work as a public affairs reservist for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, where she handles media inquiries and helps publicize resources available to victims of disaster, natural and otherwise. She also volunteers three days a week with the African Medical & Research Foundation (AMREF), a Kenya-based nongovernmental organization, with the mission of alleviating suffering on the African continent.

After reading a story in *The New York Times* about the civil strife in Sudan, Armstrong picked up the phone and volunteered her services to AMREF. It just so happened that the organization was in need of a public information officer.

As they say, if the hat fits, wear it. □

SPORTS

University of Buffalo Basketball Coach Reggie Witherspoon '00

Niagara Frontier Center

Western New York native Reggie Witherspoon is entering his sixth season as the head coach of the Bulls, the men's Division I basketball team at the University of Buffalo (UB) and it's been the team's most successful season yet. As this issue was going to press, the



team was poised to be “invited to the dance,” – the 64-team NCAA tournament, that would solidify UB's place in the big leagues. (Although a later loss to Ohio shattered that dream, UB did make it to the National Invitational Tournament, the next biggest thing.) The team also had recently played their first nationally televised game in school history in February, a 67-58 win against Ball State on ESPN2. Reached at his office at UB, Witherspoon was low-key, despite the fact that the local NBC affiliate had just packed up their cameras, and Witherspoon had three more interviews lined up that afternoon.

(continued on page 16)

PHOTO BY BEATRIZ SCHILLER

Dancer, Journalist, Editor Wendy Perron '01

Center for Graduate Programs

After more than 30 years as a dancer, teacher and choreographer in New York City, and four years as a part-time editor, last year Wendy Perron was named editor-in-chief of *Dance Magazine*, the premier publication for professional dancers.

“It's a huge job,” Perron says of her current assignment. “It's like being an editor-in-chief, executive editor and copy editor all at once.” She assigns almost all the features, works closely with the writers, approves the layouts, and reviews every story of every department. If it's a big feature, she will typically take the writer out to lunch.

Perron began dancing at age five when her dancer mother opened a modern dance school in the basement of their New Jersey home. Her first professional job was performing in a local production of *Hansel and Gretel* at the age of 14, for which she earned \$2 per performance, pretty good pay for the time, she recalled in a recent interview.

In the 1970s, the Bennington College graduate joined the Trisha Brown Dance Company before going on to found her own company in the '80s, performing nationally and internationally. Perron has danced for many renowned choreographers over the years, becoming associate director of *Jacob's Pillow* in the early '90s. She has variously taught technique, composition,

(continued on next page)

Wendy Perron

(continued from page 8)

improvisation, criticism and dance history at Bennington, Princeton, SUNY Purchase, Rutgers, New York University and the Trisha Brown studio. In 1997, Perron was commissioned by Lincoln Center to present a full-length work, in which she integrated the work of subway musicians.

Although she wrote on and off for publications like the *Village Voice* and *The New York Times* since the '70s, she did not devote herself more fully to writing until the advent of computers, she says. "Every time I sat down at a typewriter I'd get a pain in my back, so I said, I will wait until I'm 80 years old before I write."

Because of her interest in artists who are also politically active, she was considering a book-length treatment of the topic. But when she was approached to be the part-time New York editor of *Dance* five years ago, "I was happy to do it. As I grew older, it became harder to dance and keep up the dance life," she explains. Without a graduate degree, teaching jobs also were more difficult to find, despite her prior experience. That was one reason Perron decided to pursue her master's degree at Empire State College.

Being an editor – especially of a dance magazine – allows her to be in both of her worlds – dance and journalism, at once. "I am around dancers and dance writers who love it. Everyone is so passionate. People in the field just love it, and crave it too – it's the total art."

Perron also likens her work to teaching – noting how she anticipates what one of the 20 or so writers she has in regular rotation, or a new or occasional writer, will come back with for a given assignment. "If they come in with something half baked, and I bake the other half, it's a challenge." She may urge her writers to go back for better quotes, dig more deeply or to put more heart into the story. "Like a teacher, you want them to be the best they can be, to turn in the best assignment. I do a little hand holding along the way. It's like having a garden where you must tend to all the different flowers, or you may go back and find that one is wilting."

She's also found a solution for the more sedentary life of an editor, where the focus shifts to the mind over the intense physicality of dance. "I have a kneeling chair, which is good for my back; otherwise I wouldn't be so good at sitting down," she says. "In this job, I am awake in all parts of my body." □



PHOTO BY LEN IRISH

Business & Technology



Company President and COO Richard Sager '78

Central New York Center

If you've used an iPod, a cell phone or a DVD, then chances are you've used a product with components made by Williams Advanced Materials Inc. Richard Sager, the president and chief operating officer of the multinational precious metal/specialty alloys firm based in Buffalo, NY, says the company provides products to the cell phone, data storage (hard disc/DVD's), dental, semiconductor and consumer electronics markets, as well as to the auto industry.

Sager graduated with a degree in business, management and economics from Empire State College in 1978, after completing courses in electrical technology at SUNY College of Technology at Canton in the late '60s, and earning an associate degree from Herkimer Community College in accounting. Sager has gone on to cap his educational career with an M.B.A. from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), partly through an extension program based in the Utica-Rome area.

(continued on page 10)

President and CEO Brenda Copeland '92, '94

Genesee Valley Center

From the time she accepted an entry-level position at the Bank of Castile following her graduation from business college, Brenda Copeland has loved community banking. Rising through the ranks to bank manager and senior vice president before being named to the top job of president and CEO, Copeland's career path paralleled the growth of the bank. She retired from the Bank of Castile as president/CEO following its sale to a multi-bank holding company.

Copeland is now president and CEO of Steuben Trust Company, another similar-sized independent community bank with 11 branches in Western and Southern NY and about \$300 million in assets. She recalls that she always had an aptitude for, and an interest in, business – especially “fostering the growth of small businesses and its intrinsic job development.” She likes working with all customers, and helping them meet their banking needs, but found that she particularly enjoyed small business lending.

Although Copeland had business college experience and several years of



specialized banking training from Rutgers and the University of Delaware, along with Cornell University agricultural bank training, she needed to pull her education together, and Empire State College offered the wife, mother and executive the opportunity to do so. Because Copeland had so many business and banking classes as part of her educational and career experiences, she was able to concentrate on liberal arts –

taking such courses as Chinese and American art history, poetry and other courses as part of a broader educational experience, all while she was senior vice president of a burgeoning bank.

Looking back, Copeland attributes some of her drive and initiative to her parents. “Both parents were people who appreciated a solid work ethic, meaning not just to work hard but to work smart and balance your life.” She also thinks that juggling so many roles calls for the steady support of both employer and family, which for Copeland meant husband, Lyle, and two now-adult children.

“I always enjoyed taking additional initiative in the community,” says Copeland, who is active on a number of boards and committees. “It sounds cliché, but I think it never hurts to have not only a strong work ethic, but commitment to the communities and residents where you live and serve.”

Although it's rarer today for a young person to be able to rise steadily through the ranks of one company, Copeland still likes to encourage gifted junior employees to follow their dreams. “I work diligently at identifying people to bring along. I look for opportunities to mentor those people with the right attitude, initiative and work ethic, to make a difference for themselves and their families, as well as their companies and communities.” □

Richard Sager

(continued from page 9)

He began his career with Mohawk Data Sciences, a \$500 million dollar mini-computer systems firm that was located in Herkimer County. He worked his way up to vice president of sales for the service division of the company. After the company was dissolved, Sager participated in a leveraged buy out and bought a business called Advanced Materials Technology. Fifteen years ago, Brush Engineered Materials Inc., the parent company to Williams Advanced Materials, acquired the firm, and Sager joined the company as director of sales, responsible for sales at Williams and two other Brush operating companies. In 1992, he was promoted to vice president of sales and marketing. In that position,

he led Williams' successful commercial efforts to broaden its product range and expand internationally. In 1997, Sager was brought into general management with his appointment to executive vice president. In 2001, Sager became president and chief operating officer for Williams.

With manufacturing sites in Taiwan, Singapore and the Philippines, and with offices throughout the world, Sager said that the main challenge he faces “is to stay ahead of the technology curve. If you don't morph yourself and continue to diversify, you won't survive. A company must accept change as a challenge – product change and cultural diversity. The way we do business is a little different from the way business is done in Taiwan, the Philippines and China, and a lot different than in Europe.

You must be willing to stay abreast of technology and be willing to move forward. Twenty-five percent of our business – product, customer and market – changes in any given year. We have to replenish that 25 percent. It can be costly if we make the wrong moves. The personal challenge is to keep everyone focused on making sure we know who we are to the market we serve.”

Sager attributes his success not only to “being true to myself and walking the talk,” but also to the recognition that any organization is a team effort. As someone who rose through the ranks to COO, he knows his job is pivotal, but so are the jobs of the rank and file. “Everyone else has equally important positions. If you have respect for, and take care of employees, it benefits your shareholders and customers.” □

President and CEO Carol Evans '77

Genesee Valley Center

Carol Evans, CEO and president of Working Mother Media, wife, and mother of two teenagers, is committed to changing the career landscape for working mothers. Starting as a sales representative for McCall's in 1979, Evans' impeccable timing led her to be in on the launch of a new magazine that would focus on a newly emerging force, *Working Mother*. She moved up through the ranks becoming, at age 27, national advertising manager for the magazine, and, at age 32, was named the youngest vice president in McCall's history.

Evans' 10-year tenure at the magazine, ending as publisher, had seen the publication's circulation rise from 100,000 quarterly to 700,000 monthly. Evans left to pursue another exciting business challenge – the opportunity to have an ownership stake, under the leadership of former Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) chairman Arthur Levitt, Jr., in *Playbill*, the theater magazine. As president, she grew the circulation by more than 45 percent, before overseeing the sale of the publication to Primedia in 1995. She went on to bring another publication, *Chief Executive*, to profitability.

When *Working Mother*, along with a roster of other magazine titles, went on the block in 2001, Evans, in partnership with MCG Capital, jumped at the opportunity to purchase the group, renaming it Working Mother Media. The flagship publication underwent a total makeover and relaunch. *Executive Female Magazine*, the publication of the National Association of Female Executives, was freshened up. The third magazine, *Working Woman*, was retired.

In the four years since she has been reunited with *Working Mother* magazine, Evans has retained its influential annual list: "100 Best Companies for Working Mothers," and launched the brand-new list "The Best Companies for Women of Color," with ancillary conferences and events.

Evans added the new list because, according to executive editor Betty Wong, "Thirty percent of our readers are women of color, and they're looking for companies in which their voices will be heard, their talent developed, and their compensation commensurate with their contributions."

Ahead for Evans' company is the launch this year of a new annual publication, *Working Through Pregnancy*. □



BUSINESS AND
TECHNOLOGY

Company President and CEO

Christopher Calisi '86

Long Island Center

When Christopher Calisi, now president and CEO of Overland Storage, a data storage firm, decided not to go to medical school as planned, he left SUNY Stony Brook and took a "ground floor" job as a stock boy



at a small computer firm on Long Island. After that, he joined Computer Associates and eventually worked his way up to a sales job. When the sales force was cut back, he was asked to join the development team – which, Calisi notes, is the opposite of the typical career path. He spent many years on software product development, and during that time, in the mid-'80s, he also decided to return to school to finish his Bachelor of Science degree in computer science from Empire State College.

Although he enjoyed working on the development side, "as a people person I wanted to get back out

(continued on page 18)



**Entrepreneur, Inventor
and CEO
Clifford Gross '79**

Long Island Center

By Laura Arpey

Billions of dollars are spent each year on university research and thousands of new technologies are developed in federal labs and universities. Seventy percent of these developments go to waste. Clifford M. Gross, Ph.D., chief executive officer and chairman of UTEK Corporation, saw the need and had a vision for a more efficient marketplace.

It all began at the University of South Florida (USF) where Gross was a researcher and professor. His friend, colleague and then director of USF's Research Foundation, George Newkome, Ph.D., asked Gross to come up with the reasons why such a great amount of newly developed university technology was not making it to the marketplace. This was a common frustration shared among university researchers. As a favor, Gross developed a business plan which included his ideas about setting up a company that offered technology to its surrounding areas. Newkome took one look at the recommendation and told Gross, "Great idea, you should do it!"

With Gross' ingenious ideas, UTEK Corporation was started in Plant City, Florida, in 1997. In a recent phone interview Gross explained, "Companies need to tap universities for their ideas." As a technology transfer company, UTEK's mission is to link emerging technologies from universities and federal laboratories with companies that need them. At the core of the UTEK Corporation is its university-to-business (U2B) plan. This model enables the transfer of marketable university-developed technology to the companies in need of them most. UTEK identifies the university technology, evaluates whether or not it will be a good fit to a specific organization, acquires the licenses to the technology from the

university and then transfers it to the customer, in exchange for equity in the company. In 2000, Gross took his company public, where it trades on the American Stock Exchange. UTEK has since acquired six companies and has equity stakes in more than 30 others. Currently, Gross is working on expanding the company. He discussed UTEK's goal of "becoming the world's leading technology-transfer company."

Gross, who holds a Ph.D. in ergonomics and occupational biomechanics from New York University, has 19 patents for ergonomic products to his name, including a back belt, self-adjusting chairs, ergonomic scissors and a computer keyboard wrist pad to help reduce wrist stress. In the biomechanics area, Gross's expertise has been tapped by a number of corporations, such as Black & Decker and Knoll, where he has helped to guide them as they implement ergonomic principles into their designs and processes. He and his team helped Black & Decker develop the DeWalt cordless drill, which became the leading selling cordless tool in Black & Decker's history, won a gold medal from *BusinessWeek* for new product development and was featured in a Smithsonian Institution's exhibit on ergonomic design. His first book, *The Right Fit: The Power of Ergonomics as a Competitive Strategy* (Productivity Press), is described as "a manifesto for corporate strategic decision makers to incorporate an

ergonomic focus into their entire company, from the design of the workplace to its manufacturing processes and its final products." More recently, he also is the author, with Joseph P. Allen, of *Technology Transfer for Entrepreneurs* (Praeger Publications) and with Uwe Reischl and Paul Abercrombie, *The New Idea Factor: Expanding Technology Companies with University Intellectual Capital* (Battelle Press). These two books cover the developing field of technology transfer.

Gross is a 1979 graduate of Empire State College. He earned his bachelor's degree in cultural studies. He acknowledges that students at Empire State College need a great amount of discipline in order to succeed, and this discipline is not only useful in terms of school, but in the outside world as well. He believes knowledge provides a huge advantage in life. Gross' advice to current Empire State College students with high goals is "to work hard and master an area close to your heart."

Gross explains that he has found the best of both worlds with UTEK Corporation. The company seeks to create value for its shareholders while improving the quality of life through the introduction of socially responsible technology. "Although it is a job, it also is at times thrilling. It is very exciting to see university discoveries introduced into the marketplace," Gross explains. □

Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, Department of Defense Daniel Stanley '79

Northeast Center

When Daniel Stanley, now the acting assistant secretary of defense for legislative affairs, joined the Pentagon in 2001, he was excited about the opportunity to be part of President Bush's and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's stated mission to transform the military from a post-Cold War monolith, to a lighter, quicker force to be deployed against the changing threats of the 21st century. "That was my view," he explains. "Resistance to change squanders taxpayers' money." He was pleased that the military's restructuring had been set "as a priority for the secretary and for the nation. I was excited about the desire to make a change."

However, within one week, the abstract became alarmingly real when a plane hit the Pentagon, just yards from Stanley's E-ring office overlooking the Arlington Cemetery. Stanley's job changed, he said during a phone interview from his office at the Pentagon, "quite dramatically."

Stanley, a career Navy officer and former staffer for former U.S. Senator Bob Dole, had just finished watching a plane hit the first trade center tower on CNN. Not knowing exactly what had happened, but knowing that the military, as the executive agency for civil support, would need to quickly respond, he got a hold of the Army Operations unit several floors below. Then, the second trade center tower was hit. This time, the first



thought that came to his mind was *Bin Laden*.

His job changed in one instant. "Instead of the learned, thoughtful restructuring of the armed forces" he had been prepared for – "we were at war." He began to pace the office to plan what to do next, when he felt the building shake. "I stepped out of my office and felt a pressure change," he relates, and the next thing he knew, he was blown back into his office by the force of the explosion. A third plane had hit the Pentagon, and the ensuing fire eventually

burned his office. However, he counts himself among the fortunate. The Pentagon had been under renovation, and the work was running about 30 days behind schedule. Had he been in his new, renovated office, "the plane would have flown through my window."

Stanley's job has changed again, albeit not as dramatically. With the exit of his former boss, Powell Moore, Stanley now answers directly to Secretary Rumsfeld and the deputy secretary of defense – who until his appointment to the World Bank, was Paul Wolfowitz – meeting with the two men each morning as they plot the priorities of the day as it relates to the secretary's and deputy secretary's dealings with the White House, cabinet members, members of Congress and the Department of State.

Stanley's day begins before 7 a.m., when he gets into the office and goes over press clips from the previous day to see how members of Congress have been quoted on the various military issues. Each issue is tracked and evaluated to prepare the secretary to address them as they arise.

At 7:30 a.m., it's on to a meeting with senior staff leadership, to go over the secretary's and deputy secretary's

(continued on page 17)

Assemblyman Mark J. Schroeder '82

Niagara Frontier Center



The first time New York State Assemblyman Mark J. Schroeder ran for public office was for the Erie County Legislature when he was 24 years old, having just graduated from Empire State College. He lost that race by 600 votes, and went into a career in sales for the next 20 years. When he ran for the legislature again, he won handily.

“When I ran for the first time, I was very green. I wanted to be a politician, wanted to be in government, but I don’t know if I had it well thought-out,” Schroeder said during a recent phone conversation.

What his life in the private sector taught him was that one must work “by objectives – that’s the only way to become a success.”

By the time of his second run in 2001, Schroeder’s objective was to brighten the bleak economic picture in his own neighborhood. Schroeder spent three years in the county legislature where he worked on business revitalization, and educating and retraining workers. By his count there were 54 vacant storefronts on Seneca Street, and the South Park business district, with 27 vacant storefronts, “had fallen to sleep.”

“We knew we could do better,” he said.

Today, in part due to Schroeder’s efforts, the multi-million dollar Seneca Street Redevelopment Project aims to remake that sagging business strip.

In November, Schroeder was elected to a seat in the state Legislature. He represents the 145th Assembly District, encompassing 10 distinct neighborhoods, seven of which he calls the “old neighborhoods of South Buffalo,” largely blue-collar enclaves, which thrived during the heyday of Bethlehem Steel, but are struggling with the loss of their manufacturing base. He sees his current job as a continuation of the work begun at the county level, but with the ability to do even more for his constituents with state funding.

Among his accomplishments, he counts the opening of the Greater South Buffalo Chamber of Commerce three years ago. “It now has over 150 paying members,” said Schroeder proudly, 49 days after his swearing in as assemblyman.

The South Buffalo Education Center, which offers free G.E.D. classes, was the answer for another problem: the small bands of teenagers hanging out on street corners during the day “loitering, smoking, turning on.” The center now has the highest graduation and retention rates of any similar program in Erie County, according to the Buffalo Board of Education. Schroeder easily credits the main teacher at the site – Stacey Watson. “She’s absolutely amazing,” he says. The other thing Schroeder is excited about is a job placement and training center, which goes hand-in-hand with the G.E.D. center, that

is helping people in his assembly district with résumé writing and job training. “In Erie County, there are 66,000 workforce-age people who do not have a high school diploma or a G.E.D., so we’re doing something about that.”

Seniors can come in and get acquainted with computers and learn e-mail to stay in touch with their children and grandchildren. Younger workers as well as older ones benefit from the retraining and referrals offered. Schroeder pointed to one former factory worker who came in at age 54, got a G.E.D., some computer training and was able to get a job in the private sector. “We’re not trying to reinvent the wheel,” says Schroeder. “What we are doing is listening ...”

Schroeder himself is a product of the neighborhoods he serves, having grown up in South Buffalo in a strong traditional Irish Catholic family, attending local public and parish schools before graduating from Empire State College’s Niagara Frontier Center. “How you are raised, where you come from, influences how you see the world,” he says. □

“How you are raised,
where you come from,
influences how you see the world.”

Reggie Witherspoon

(continued from page 8)

An article on the *Sports Illustrated* web site calls Witherspoon a tireless recruiter and promoter for his team. However, Witherspoon gave credit to the “character” of the young athletes as well as their success for generating a sense of excitement on the campus. When asked about the key to his own success, he talked humbly about his ability to work well with people.

Witherspoon was first appointed as interim coach during the 1999-2000 season after the previous coach was fired due to NCAA violations. According to ESPN, when Witherspoon took over, there wasn't much buzz about the team, especially compared to those of other colleges in the state. In fact, the position was considered “an impossible job.”

That season, Witherspoon tripled the team's wins over the previous season. During the 2002-03 season, he faced the challenge of guiding a team consisting of players who were mostly freshman and sophomores. Despite an early losing season, he is becoming known as the coach who is turning things around.

Honors include being named the Mid-American Conference Coach of the Year and collegeinsider.com Mid-Major Coach of the Year after the 2003-2004 season. That year, Buffalo won 12 of its final 15 games of the season. A UB news article notes, “The 12-win improvement from the previous season was the second-best turnaround in the nation in 2003-2004.”

With nearly two decades of coaching experience on the high school and collegiate level, including a stint with Erie Community College, Witherspoon is active in the community as well; serving as director of the Amateur Athletic Events for the Big 4 from 1996-98, and as one of the founders of Buffalo Team ACE (Athletes Committed to Excellence), a youth development program. A college basketball player who, at Wheeling Jesuit College, played under Philadelphia 76ers head coach Jim O'Brien, Witherspoon earned an associate degree from Erie Community College and his bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from Empire State College in 2000. □



PHOTO BY TOMI BUSHEY, THE TIMES HERALD-RECORD

Civil Rights Attorney

Helen Ullrich '93

Hudson Valley Center

There were a few gainsayers when Helen Ullrich decided, at age 48, to enroll in New York Law School. An occasional young – usually male – student would question why a middle-aged woman was taking space from a younger student with a potentially longer law career. Ullrich had worked in administrative posts in the healthcare industry for much of her career. She later began selling real estate to spend more time with her then-teenage children, whom she was raising as a single mother following a divorce. She wasn't about to let a little criticism derail her long-held dream.

“I didn't necessarily have a lifetime ahead in terms of a career,” explains Ullrich. “I was going to do what I wanted to do – and not be drawn into the ‘new hot area,’ or sit in a back office practicing tax law. I was a big girl and life was too short.”

Ullrich graduated magna cum laude in 1996, after a stellar law school career that included being *Law Review* notes and comments editor, Moot Court member and a research assistant to two of her professors. Ironically, the older students were disproportionately represented in the top quarter of the

graduating class, Ullrich recalls with some satisfaction. “I knew I was going to law school when I began Empire State College,” says Ullrich, who is now a partner in the law firm Thornton, Bergstein & Ullrich LLP. She has made a reputation for being a tough constitutional lawyer, taking on civil rights lawsuits in such areas as sexual discrimination and harassment, employment discrimination, freedom of speech and religious freedom. Several cases have involved public officials who overreached by retaliating against employees.

The case that put Ullrich, who was then practicing solo, on the map, involved two nursing administrators who

worked for a medical contractor for the Orange County Jail. The nurses complained to the county executive about the conditions in the jail regarding inmates suffering from mental illness.

“These inmates were subject to inadequate care. For example, they were often overmedicated, there was a lack of adequate

emergency services, and so on,” Ullrich explains. In 1998, the nurses' supervisor, fearing he would lose his county contract because of their actions, fired them. After two years, the case went to trial, with the help of Scott Thornton, a friend who had extensive trial experience, and with whom she is now in partnership. The jury awarded the nurses \$2.2 million (later reduced to about \$1.2 million, which Ullrich deems “just about right”).

Other recent cases have been brought by a volunteer ambulance company, a small local newspaper, and a member of the Republican committee fired for not revealing a vote against a town supervisor whom she says “governs through fear and intimidation.” What all three lawsuits have in common is that they all involve constitutional violations, according to Ullrich.

Recalling the case of the nursing administrators, Ullrich remarks, “The jury was furious. They awarded \$1 million in punitive damages against the county executive, which I think was a good lesson for county officials.” Such outcomes, she says, “put public officials in Orange County on notice that they cannot ignore the U.S. Constitution.” □

U.S. Representative Ginny Brown-Waite '76

Northeast Center

Congresswoman Ginny Brown-Waite, now in her second term in the U.S. House of Representatives, puts the needs of her constituents in Florida's Fifth District first, sometimes even before supporting the plans of her Republican Party. One example of her independence and commitment to her constituents stems from the makeup of her Fifth Congressional District, which is home to the highest concentration of Social Security beneficiaries in the nation. Because she puts the needs of her constituents first, Rep. Brown-Waite has sponsored a bill to ensure that Social Security cannot be cut for those Americans currently receiving benefits.

According to her web site, "I will never support any effort to cut Social Security benefits for today's retirees or near retirees, nor will I support any effort to privatize the Social Security program."

Rep. Brown-Waite, an Albany native who served as a Florida state senator, Senate Majority Whip and as the Senate President Pro Tempore, began her political career as a legislative director in the New York State Legislature. She has always prided herself on her political independence, telling *Empire State College Alumni and Student News*, "I ask so many questions, I know I drive people crazy. I am no-nonsense and have always been upfront. I stick to my word."



Florida's Gulf Coast Fifth District also is home to the highest concentration of veterans of any congressional district in the nation. Rep. Brown-Waite is proud to have authored legislation designed to reduce the long waits that veterans face when seeking medical care at Veterans Affairs facilities. Specifically, the bill mandates that veterans must receive care within 30 days of their initial request. She has continued her service to the veterans' community as an outspoken member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee in the 109th Congress.

One of the biggest issues of Rep. Brown-Waite's first term was the war in Iraq. She took part in a Congressional delegation trip in 2003 that traveled to Iraq to see firsthand the conditions on the ground. She came back convinced that the media were not reporting the whole story and that conditions there were better than were reported back in the United States. She notes on her web site that all of the Florida soldiers she spoke to in Iraq said they valued their mission and would do it again.

Besides fighting to preserve and strengthen Social Security, enhance Medicare benefits and fight for Veterans' issues, Rep. Brown-Waite will continue to focus on increasing access to health-care and prescription drugs, better funding for public schools, and comprehensive tax reform. She strongly supports strengthening homeland security, and is interested in water, energy and environmental issues. □

Daniel Stanley

(continued from page 14)

calendars. That is followed by a roundtable with Rumsfeld and his deputy to bring before them the issues being debated in Congress. This could be anything from Iraqi security, to troop rotations, to up-arming Humvees, to increasing the death benefits paid to the families of soldiers killed in combat. The rest of the day is filled with attending Congressional hearings, or, three or four times a week, meetings with various members of Congress or other government officials in person or by phone.

Stanley, a native Kansan, began his career as a Navy enlisted man. During a tour of duty at the Knolls Atomic Power Lab, he enrolled in Empire State College's Northeast Center, because the flexibility allowed him "to pursue my college education and my rotational shift work." He earned a degree in math, science and technology with a concentration in nuclear technology. He later served as secretary of administration of the state of Kansas; and as an administrative assistant, legislative director and defense policy advisor for Senator Dole. As a member of the Arms Control Observer Group staff, Stanley attended the first congressional delegation to Berlin after the fall of the wall, monitored START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) and Defense and Space Talks negotiations, as well as the Chemical/Biological Treaty negotiations. In the private sector, between 1985 and 1987, Stanley served as director of strategic planning for the McDonnell Douglas Corporation responsible for the corporation's 10-year defense forecast and other strategic planning initiatives, according to his official bio. Stanley has assumed a number of roles since joining the Department of Defense. Most recently, he has served as principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for legislative affairs. He also served concurrently as the principal deputy assistant secretary of the army (manpower and reserve affairs), and the deputy assistant secretary of the army (for training, readiness and mobilization).

In all of his many roles, and as he has ascended to the top of the Pentagon hierarchy in an especially crucial and difficult time, Stanley keeps his guiding motto emblazoned on a rock on his desk: "Never, never, never quit." □

Christopher Calisi

(continued from page 11)

front.” He went on to take positions as technology marketing manager at Unify Corp., before moving on to Symantec Corp., another software development firm that specialized in creating software security products. He rose through the ranks at Symantec to director of development, general manager, vice president and finally executive vice president, reporting to the CEO. Under his leadership, his division climbed from revenues of just under \$10 million to \$300 million annually. Calisi “had such a wonderful time, I got the itch to take a CEO position.” The Long Island born and bred Calisi was soon recruited by eHelp Corp., in the process moving his family to San Diego. When Calisi was appointed CEO of eHelp, it was a small desktop software maker. Under his leadership, eHelp became, according to a company statement, “an acknowledged leader in the Internet development tools market.”

Recruited by Overland in 2001, at a time when the company was expanding into new markets and developing new products, Calisi said it was a challenge moving from a privately held company to steering a large publicly traded company with a quarter of a billion in revenue in the post-Enron age. “CEOs,” he noted, “are guilty until proven innocent.” He regularly fields numerous phone calls from the company’s shareholders.

The company’s products are distributed through such leading firms as HP and IBM, and its clients include corporations like Daimler Chrysler, Merck and Pfizer.

“One thing that has guided my career is focusing on results,” said the self-described “Type A” personality, husband to fellow Empire State College alumna Christine Calisi ’97 and proud father of two. “It doesn’t matter how hard you work at the end of the day, but how many beans you’ve put in the bank.” □

Assemblyman Gary Finch ’90

Central New York Center

Gary D. Finch was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1999, representing the 126th Assembly District, which includes all of Cayuga County and parts of Cortland and Chenango counties.

Assemblyman Finch first threw his hat into the ring in 1979, running as a village trustee in Aurora. In 1982, he was elected mayor, serving for eight years, during which he undertook a number of initiatives to improve the village’s finances.

A successful small business owner, Assemblyman Finch operates Brew-Finch Funeral Homes, which have locations in northern, central and southern New York.

He also is an extremely active member of his community and has been recognized with a variety of awards for this commitment. He has chaired the Board of



Trustees of Cayuga Community College, and, as a member of the Assembly’s Education Committee, is a strong and knowledgeable advocate for education. Most recently he was named Assemblyman of the Year by the New York State Association of Big Brothers and Big Sisters.

He resides in Springport with his wife, Marcia Herrling Finch, and also has raised two children, Amy and Gregory. He graduated from Empire State College in April of 1990 with a major in interdisciplinary studies. □

Member of House of Commons, Canada Walt Lastewka ’03

FORUM Management Education Program



Walt Lastewka, an industrial engineer by training, has, since 1993, served in Canada’s House of Commons, representing St. Catharines, Ontario Electoral District. Lastewka spent 30 years as an industrial engineer and as a senior executive at General Motors in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. Under the banner of the Liberal Caucus, he was re-elected in 1997, 2000 and 2004, serving as chair or vice chair of numerous standing committees and subcommittees, including the

Standing Committee on Science and Technology, the International Trade Committee, the Environment Committee, and the joint House/Senate Foreign Affairs Committee.

He was chair of the Task Force on Commercializing Government Science Research and the Federal Caucus Advocate for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.

Since December 2003, Lastewka also has served as parliamentary secretary of public works and government services, with an emphasis on procurement review. His parliamentary secretary task force report on government-wide procurement has been approved by the government and is being implemented at a cost of \$90 million and overall savings of \$2.6 billion over five years.

Lastewka has been active in the community as well – he has been involved in St. Catharines’ Museum, the United Way, Brock University, and he served as a Jaycees/Junior Chamber International vice president (JCI), 1976. □

Assemblyman Luis M. Diaz '87, '88

Long Island Center

Assemblyman Luis M. Diaz, who represents the 86th District of the Bronx, has always held the needs of the community close to his heart and high on his agenda. When he was a member of the board of the Hispanic Voter Registration Drive, Diaz participated in local and national voter registration drives resulting in 10,000 newly registered Hispanic voters. Spurred on by this success, he joined the Community Planning Board #5, to further organize at the grassroots level. Prior to his run for the Assembly, he was the male district leader for the 76th Assembly District. In 1993, he became the executive director of Neighborhood Enhancement and Training Services

(NETS, Inc.), a not-for-profit community based group in the Bronx. Through NETS, he worked to improve the social services delivery system. Under his leadership, and through his tenacity and perseverance, the organization's mission was expanded to include education, economic development and computer technology. As a result, according to his official bio, the organization grew from an agency providing services to senior citizens, to a "stable, multifaceted organization that serves the young and elderly alike."

Diaz's priorities for his district, which was newly created just prior to his election, are health care, education and economic revitalization for the predomi-



nately lower- to lower-middle class neighborhoods that comprise the district. Diaz describes himself as a doer. "Too many people spend a lot of time thinking of what they could do and nothing ever gets done. Everything is possible if we are willing to just take that first step." □

Director, New York State Emergency Management Office James W. Tuffey '04

Northeast Center



James W. Tuffey was named director of the New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) by Gov. George Pataki last July. In this pivotal position, Tuffey is responsible for coordinating the activities of all state agencies in the case of an emergency, whether man-made or natural disaster.

"Our challenge is to make sure that we're prepared to support local and state agencies with the best technology and the best methodology to prepare for all hazards,"

Tuffey said during an interview from his office.

Tuffey retired at the rank of detective after 20 years with the Albany Police Department. He went on to become a confidential investigator in New York State Department of Labor before

becoming Public Safety Commissioner for the City of Cohoes. In 1998, he joined the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), first as labor relations director and then as assistant commissioner for the Office of Public Protection overseeing the Divisions of Law Enforcement and Forest Rangers. He also served as liaison to SEMO where he was instrumental in developing the state's Y2K preparedness plans. In addition, according to his SEMO bio, he has served on the Weapons of Mass Destruction Task Force since 2000 and was executive lead for more than 500 DEC members involved in the response to the terrorist attacks of September 11. In naming the former Albany police officer and detective, the governor wrote, "Jim Tuffey has had an outstanding career in law enforcement and emergency management. I am confident that under Jim's leadership SEMO will continue to be the nation's premier emergency management organization ..."

As evidenced by his own ability to take on new and complex jobs after retiring from his first career in law enforcement, Tuffey said his guiding principle has been "to never stop learning. No matter where you are, you can learn from someone. You need to take on every challenge that you face – and don't ever be afraid to ask someone for advice." □



Infant Development Expert, Philanthropist Susan Turben '72

Northeast Center

Susan H. Turben, Ph.D., infant development expert, community advocate, philanthropist, and one of the earliest graduates of Empire State College, has recently embarked on one of the most ambitious projects of her long career. In partnership with the Jewish

Community Federation of Cleveland, she is working as a volunteer professional, four times a year, in St. Petersburg, Russia where she is sharing the fruits of her education (a Bachelor of Science degree from Empire State College and a dual doctorate in infancy and early childhood education) and her more than 35 years of experience working with babies and youths.

Turben is a pioneer in the early intervention field, receiving her first grant for the Handicapped Children Early Education Program (HCEEP) in 1974. She started the first infant stimulation program in the Capital District, and she now is the principal in Turben Developmental Services, based in Beachwood, Ohio. Turben and her husband, Jack, are active in a number of community activities and Turben serves on many boards, including the Empire State College Foundation board. Through the Turben Family Foundation, Susan and Jack are also regular supporters of National Public Radio and other organizations, which focus on strengthening families through education, and providing access to services that promote healthy lifestyles.

In Russia, she is working with special needs children up to the ages of 12 to 13,

helping parents, teachers and medical professionals recognize and appreciate early human development, and, as she likes to say, "How smart and competent babies are. What I do in St. Petersburg, is to teach preschool and toddler caregivers and parents about the many abilities infants have in utero through birth, and then demonstrate how all children learn so that adults can guide their children's development knowing the very important



capacities children have since birth. Because these teachers are used to working with older kids, they are always stunned to see how much babies are able to learn."

Turben believes that it is incumbent upon countries like the United States, who have a wealth of infant research available, to take it to other parts of the globe, which have not been able to accrue such knowledge. "All children can learn," she states firmly; adding, "From the age of three months, it is possible to observe that all children have skills and

talents. Sharing the knowledge is so important in light of current worldwide events, which prove how vulnerable children are and how small and interwoven the world has become," she said.

Not only is Turben bringing her knowledge to St. Petersburg, where there are 28 child care centers in just one small area of the city and up to 83,000 children living full time in orphanages, but she is learning individual family cultures and language, as well. She's been studying Russian with a coach and tutor for nine months, taking classes two times a week, and says, "I am doing okay with reading; but there's always that barrier among us English speakers – we fear using the wrong words, when really any words at all are greeted with so much warmth just because I'm trying!"

The people in St. Petersburg understand that it's a two-way learning street. They asked Turben to speak to them in their native language, and she does, using an interpreter to fill in the more complex subject matter. Using pictures, dolls and working with children themselves, Turben hopes to open up a door of promise to young special-needs Russian children.

And when she's finished her work in that center? "I'll ask them to take me to meet the director of another school down the street," she jokes.

Turben also has been busy on her home turf, in partnership with the Lake County NAACP, to help prison inmates connect with their children. In her work with family intervention, she realized that many of the families she visited were not intact; in fact a significant number of these parents were incarcerated in jails in places like Cincinnati and Columbus,

(continued next page)

Susan Turban

(continued from page 20)

miles away from their kids. Not only that, due to the vagaries of finding someone to look after children – who were often placed in relatives' homes and in various day care arrangements – Turben realized that parents did not know where their own children were from day to day. Turben made a call to the local NAACP, of which she is a member, and together, they are funding a program that transports children and caregivers to physically connect incarcerated parents with children. By “coincidence” the group was already looking for ways to purchase a van and raise funds for food and clothing to begin transporting kids to prisons. The John and Susan Turben Family Foundation offered help two years ago, and now the program serves over 1,500 care-

givers and kids. The mission is to foster healthy relationships in families. Turben points out that in situations where families cannot see their incarcerated family member, teleconferencing and distance education will be offered. “We believe in the innate ability of every parent to be proud of their

“All parents need to physically see their children to believe how smart and talented they are becoming.”

children, and to be competent and nurture their children. Essentially, no matter how terrible the situation, this program proves to parents in prison that others embrace their family and respect and share pride in these special children.” As Turben puts it, “all parents need to physically see their children to believe how smart and talented they are becoming. Freedom

Fund Prison Ministry project is meeting that need.”

Turben, who herself started out as a Head Start mom, knows whereof she speaks. She juggled school, and responsibility for her husband who had multiple sclerosis, while at the same time, trying to raise three kids. Her strong faith prompts her toward the responsibility “to do all I can, for as many people as I can, in all the places that I can, and for as long as I can. My faith guides me to be a servant witness to the community, and when the right thing seems to come to me that way, I put my time, money and energy into it. Beyond that, I feel our own five children, now grown with their own children to raise, deserve to see their parents as examples of community advocacy. Families can be helped to grow better and stronger – if we all work together. It's *not* all about me.” □

Activist Marcia Pappas '93

Northeast Center

Marcia Pappas ran successfully for the presidency of the New York state chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW), taking the helm of the 13,000-member organization representing 24 local chapters across the state in December. As the proprietor of a small business in the Capital District for 30 years, it was the stories she heard from her clients

that led to her interest in NOW. In addition, as the granddaughter of a Panamanian immigrant, she had grown up hearing how her family faced discrimination during their first years in this country, and early on recognized the vital importance of advocacy. Her interests eventually brought her into a leadership position as president of the 325-member Albany chapter of NOW. At the end of 2004, she challenged incumbent Kathryn Lake Mazierski to the statewide presidency and won, making her, in the words of a newspaper account, “one of the most visible activists in the state.”

Pappas ran for the presidency because, after 15 years as a volunteer, she loved the work so much that she wanted to deepen her involvement. Under her leadership, she hopes to include the grassroots membership in more of the organization's decision making. “Because NOW is an organi-

zation that deals with all issues that affect women, it can sometimes feel like a daunting task,” she said. “There are times that I may feel a particular issue should take priority, but as president, it is my job to represent the membership and their wishes.”

The New York state NOW web site says that it advocates for women who have been victims of domestic violence; for pay equity in the marketplace; for working women juggling the “triple burden” of career, household and childrearing; against sexual harassment and discrimination; and what NOW is perhaps best known for – its advocacy of legal abortion.

Pappas says her job requires that she be highly organized and able to stay on task. But she also knows when to loosen the reins.

“Sometimes in leadership you may want to steer the group one way, but the membership has other thoughts. That's democracy at its core – sometimes it hurts, and you flinch because democracy is really difficult at its core, but it's really the best way.” □



Assemblyman and Labor Leader Brian M. McLaughlin '81, '83

The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies



Brian M. McLaughlin, president of the New York City Central Labor Council/AFL-CIO and New York State Assemblyman for the 25th Assembly District covering Flushing and Whitestone, Queens, (“one of the most culturally diverse communities on earth,” he has said), is known as a consummate labor organizer and mobilizer. The native New Yorker and grandson of Irish immigrants has been active in the labor movement for more than 20 years – ever since his days as a journeyman electrician in IBEW, Local No. 3, who received his tutelage from esteemed late labor leader Harry Van Arsdale, Jr. As if his plate wasn’t already full, McLaughlin, who also is active in a number of community groups, has had his name bandied about as a potential New York City mayoral candidate.

McLaughlin is credited with revitalizing the labor movement at the grassroots level through organizing, public education, social justice and political action. The New York City Central Labor Council, a chartered body of the AFL-CIO, is a grassroots advocacy group representing more than one million workers in 400 unions, including teachers, truck drivers, sewing machine operators, train operators, dock workers, doctors, nurses, orderlies, construction workers, cooks, janitors, and jazz musicians. The Central Labor Council sees its mission as helping working families achieve civil rights, fair wages, safe working conditions, a political voice, and the respect and dignity that their labor should afford them, according to its web site. The labor council has joined with The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies to establish an Organizing Institute, which will train rank and file union workers to be “highly skilled organizers.”

Recently, under McLaughlin’s leadership, the labor council has taken on the behemoth, Wal-Mart, criticizing it for its nonunionized workforce.

(continued on next page)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community Activist, City Council Member Gladys Santiago '96

Genesee Valley Center



Gladys Santiago, the senior vice president of Ibero – American Action League, Inc. in Rochester, New York, oversees the development of all programs and fund-raising activities for the organization, handling a \$6 million budget. This unique program is designed to foster growth and development in the Hispanic community. The organization has a wide variety of programs for children, youths, seniors, the developmentally disabled and more.

Santiago also is the vice president of the Rochester City Council where she represents the city at public events. In her years as a council member at large, she has sponsored legislation to reduce gun violence (Project Exile) expand the Homework Hotline Program, and provide additional funds for the purchase of Spanish language materials for the library system.

After attending the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) and Monroe Community College, Santiago graduated from Empire State College with a degree in Human Service Management and Business Administration. In 2004, Santiago accepted an appointment as RIT’s Frederick H. Minett Professor for 2003-2004. □

President, Communications Workers of America Morton Bahr '83

The Harry Van Arsdale Jr.
Center for Labor Studies



Because of the fluidity of today's workplace, American frontline workers don't know what their jobs will look like, or even what relevant skills they will need, several years down the road. This is the assessment of Morton Bahr, president of the powerful Communications Workers of America (CWA), the 700,000-member union that represents workers in the telecommunications, media, information technology, printing, manufacturing, airline and electronics industries. Therefore, workers need higher and continuing education more than ever, and Bahr has made this a guiding principle in his leadership of the CWA.

Bahr, who celebrated his 51st anniversary with the union in April, is recognized as a leading voice of the labor movement, both in the United States and internationally. He said he has been interested in lifelong learning for 20 years, but the issue really came into focus for him six years ago, when he was tapped to chair the President's Commission for a Nation of

Lifelong Learners. "As global competition becomes even fiercer, workers are going to be required to continue to upgrade their skills – and not only their technical skills – because it's so difficult to predict five to six years from now what will still be needed," he said in a recent interview from CWA's Washington, DC headquarters. Bahr maintained that young people preparing for college must have a broad-based education, including in the liberal arts. They should hone the ability to communicate clearly in both the written and spoken word, and they must be able to work with people, in order to fit into the "high performance workplace."

Bahr recalled a commencement speech on a SUNY campus, in which he stressed the importance of lifelong learning. Two recent graduates approached him afterwards, saying ruefully, "but we thought we were finished!"

Bahr, however, took the same advice that he gives, completing his degree at The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies in 1983.

Bahr has been tireless in implementing his vision. As a vice president of the AFL-CIO, he chaired the federation's Workers Education Committee, and has been unyielding in the push to create a highly educated union membership. In 2001, Empire State College established the Morton Bahr Scholarship program in his honor. This program has so far enabled 21 union workers or their family members to pursue a college degree through the college's Center for Distance Learning. Under his guidance, CWA has also pioneered a number of other innovative programs in the area of worker education. These include nationally recognized education programs with major employers; a partnership with Cisco Systems to provide certification and skill training for workers in Internet technology; and a partnership with telecom employers and Pace University that has produced the first online degree program in telecommunications.

He stresses the importance of investing in training rank and file workers as well as managers. Traditionally, he said, only two percent of an organization's resources is put aside for training and educating the frontline worker; but the company that will gain and keep its technological advantage will be the company that "recognizes the value of frontline workers when spending resources."

Although joking that he got to where he is because, "I was in the right place at the right time," Bahr in fact progressed up the ranks one step at a time, his horizons broadening from each new venue. He took the helm of the CWA in 1985, after serving 16 years as CWA vice president for District 1, covering New York, New Jersey and New England. Under Bahr's leadership, CWA is demonstrating that it continues to be a highly effective and vital union for the information age. □

Brian McLaughlin

(continued from page 22)

Asked what advice he'd have for a current Empire State College student, the labor leader and Queens assemblyman replied, "As I look back over my professional life, one thing that stands out is that you can never be 100 percent certain where your career path will lead you. An electrician by trade, with a love for community involvement, 20 years later, I'm now

a state legislator, a district leader and the president of an organization representing more than 1.3 million union workers. From one who sat in the same classrooms, walked in the same buildings and experienced the same type of educational challenges, albeit some years ago, my advice is simple: Take it all in. Squeeze the most out of every hour. Go down every road of opportunity. One day you may be repairing a street light, the next day you may be lighting a nation with your ideas." □

President of the New York State AFL-CIO Denis Hughes '93, '99

The Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies



Denis Hughes, president of the 2.5 million-member New York State AFL-CIO, does not hesitate to take on the powerful in pursuit of his aim to further the cause of working families in New York state. Last December, *The New York Times* detailed how Hughes wouldn't back down when Gov. George E. Pataki vetoed a bill that would raise the minimum wage for workers across the state. He lobbied the state Senate and the Assembly for an override of the governor's veto, and succeeded in spurring the passage of a bill that would raise the minimum wage for three consecutive years, beginning last

January, when it saw an increase to \$5.65. By January 2007, the minimum wage will be \$7.15 per hour. Although most minimum wage workers do not belong to labor unions, Hughes is quoted as telling *The Times* that, by creating a "wage floor," it benefits all workers. Besides the fight to increase the minimum wage, under Hughes' leadership, farm workers now earn the same minimum wage as other workers in the state. Another victory has been legislation that prevents the state from using funds to deter union organizing.

Hughes maintains that there is still a lot of work ahead for unions, despite the trend among many companies toward outsourcing or manufacturing overseas. Another challenge is from large companies unfriendly to union activity. For example, the AFL-CIO is undertaking a huge public education campaign targeting Wal-Mart's employment practices. Wal-Mart, the largest retailer in the U.S., is currently nonunionized. "What we have to do is bring more and more people into the labor movement," Hughes said during a recent interview. "The mission and role of labor hasn't changed. We are still a mechanism for

helping working men and women achieve the dignity they deserve. There are still a lot of workers here (in the U.S.) that don't have the benefit of collective bargaining and there remains a lot we can do."

Hughes, a former journeyman electrician who enjoys motorcycling in his free time, joined the state AFL-CIO, an umbrella organization that encompasses 3,000 unions in New York, as a political director and assistant to the president in 1985. In 1990, he was promoted to the position of executive assistant to the president before assuming the presidency in 1999. As his official bio explains, he has "made creating a more mobile, active and aggressive statewide labor movement a top priority ... [and has] set the tone for organizing new members into the movement and has led the way in developing proactive legislative and political statewide strategy." Reflecting his clout, in 2003, Hughes was elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank.

Hughes says that the key to success is doing something that you love. "Do something you would do whether you were paid for it or not." □

Laurel Massé

(continued from page 4)

where she interviewed and played with such jazz luminaries as pianist Lee Shaw, Latin-jazz ensemble Mambo Kikongo, Peter Eldridge of the New York Voices, Matt Glaser of Wayfaring Strangers, and cornetist Peter Ecklund.

Although often described either as a jazz singer or a cabaret singer, Massé doesn't see herself fitting neatly into categories. "I just call myself a singer," she says simply. "What comes from jazz is the willingness to hear a piece of music in a different way, and that could be anything from a Cole Porter tune to a Bach suite."

In 2001, Massé released *Feather & Bone* (Premonition), a CD that experiments with a number of musical vocabularies, from the ancient *Hymn to the Muse* and a sung arrangement of Bach's Suite #1 for Unaccompanied Cello, to folk songs with a Celtic inflection, to sacred music and spirituals. In 2004, she received the MAC (Manhattan Association of Clubs and Cabarets) Lifetime Achievement Award. Massé also is the recipient of a Richard Porter Leach Fellowship in the Arts and a SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. She hopes to "continue to grow and develop my personal voice in my art ... I [also] want to be able to bring the same experience that I carry with me onto the stage into the classroom so that I can be part of passing along the vocal tradition." □

Travel Abroad Program

A Tale of Two Cities

Vienna and Prague

await you!

October 14 - 21, 2005

Please join us as we tour two of the most beautiful cities in Europe, Vienna and Prague, and visit with some of our international alumni. You'll come to find that Empire State College alumni and students are everywhere!

Our trip includes:

- six nights accommodation in first-class hotels (*based on twin bedded rooms with private facilities*) with daily breakfasts
- portorage in and out of the hotels (*one piece of luggage per person*)
- English speaking tour escorts
- deluxe motor coach according to the itinerary
- welcome dinner in Vienna
- farewell dinner in Prague
- reception in Prague on our final evening with our Prague alumni and students
- half-day local guide for city tour of Vienna and Prague

All this for \$1,890 (*not included are tips, extra fees, meals, exhibit admissions, single traveler supplement and air departure tax of approximately \$175 per person*). Pricing based on 30 participants, subject to cost increase below 30 passengers.

For more information or to reserve your spot, please contact Celtic Tours at 800 833-4373 or Ellen Ascone at EllenA@celtictours.com. To see the itinerary, visit us at www.esc.edu/alumni.



Come join us for our annual Empire State College Day at the Races

Saratoga Springs Friday, August 12, 2005

"Empire State College Track Pack" for \$30 includes:

- Grandstand admission
- Grandstand seat
- Program
- Coffee and pastries at the college
- Box lunch
- Handicapping seminar
- President Moore's "winning" selections

Registration begins at 10:30 a.m., at which time you will pick up your pass, program and lunch. We will be serving coffee and pastries during that time. The handicapping seminar will begin around 11:00 a.m. Post time for the first race is 1:00 p.m. Seating is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. We will reserve your seat when we receive your check made out to Empire State College Foundation. Simply use the order form below. You may make a copy of the order form for your guest(s).

Please complete and return to:

Maureen Winney

Empire State College

One Union Avenue

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-4391

Name _____

Address _____ Graduation Year _____

Day phone _____

E-mail _____

Make your check payable to: **Empire State College Foundation.**

The box lunch will include a sandwich, side salad, dessert, fruit and chips. Drinks are on your own.

Please check one sandwich and side salad

- Turkey Roast beef Chicken salad Baked ham Vegetarian

Side salad

- Penne pasta with turkey and bacon Tomato provolone with basil Red potato Cole slaw

Please circle a bread and condiment choice

- White Wheat Rye Sourdough Sundried tomato wrap

Condiments

- Mayonnaise Brown mustard Russian dressing Honey dijon mustard

Please circle any others: • Cheese (Swiss or American) • Lettuce • Tomato

YOU ARE IMPORTANT TO US!

Send news of your accomplishments and activities so that we can feature them in future issues of Empire State College Alumni and Student News. If possible include a recent photograph (with your name on the back). Please spell out all organization abbreviations.

Name _____

Address _____

Job title _____

Business name/address _____

Center/Unit attended _____

Year graduated/degrees _____

Current student? _____ Area of study _____

Phone number: Work _____ Home _____

E-mail address _____

Honors and other accomplishments _____

Volunteer/professional organizations _____

Send to: *Empire State College Alumni and Student News*, Office of College Relations, Empire State College, One Union Avenue, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-4391.



EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE

One Union Avenue
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-4391

Nonprofit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 19

Saratoga Springs, NY
12866-4391