

Set Sail July 9-12  
for REUNION 2015  
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Distinguished Visiting Alumnus Norman Radow '78 Comes to Campus

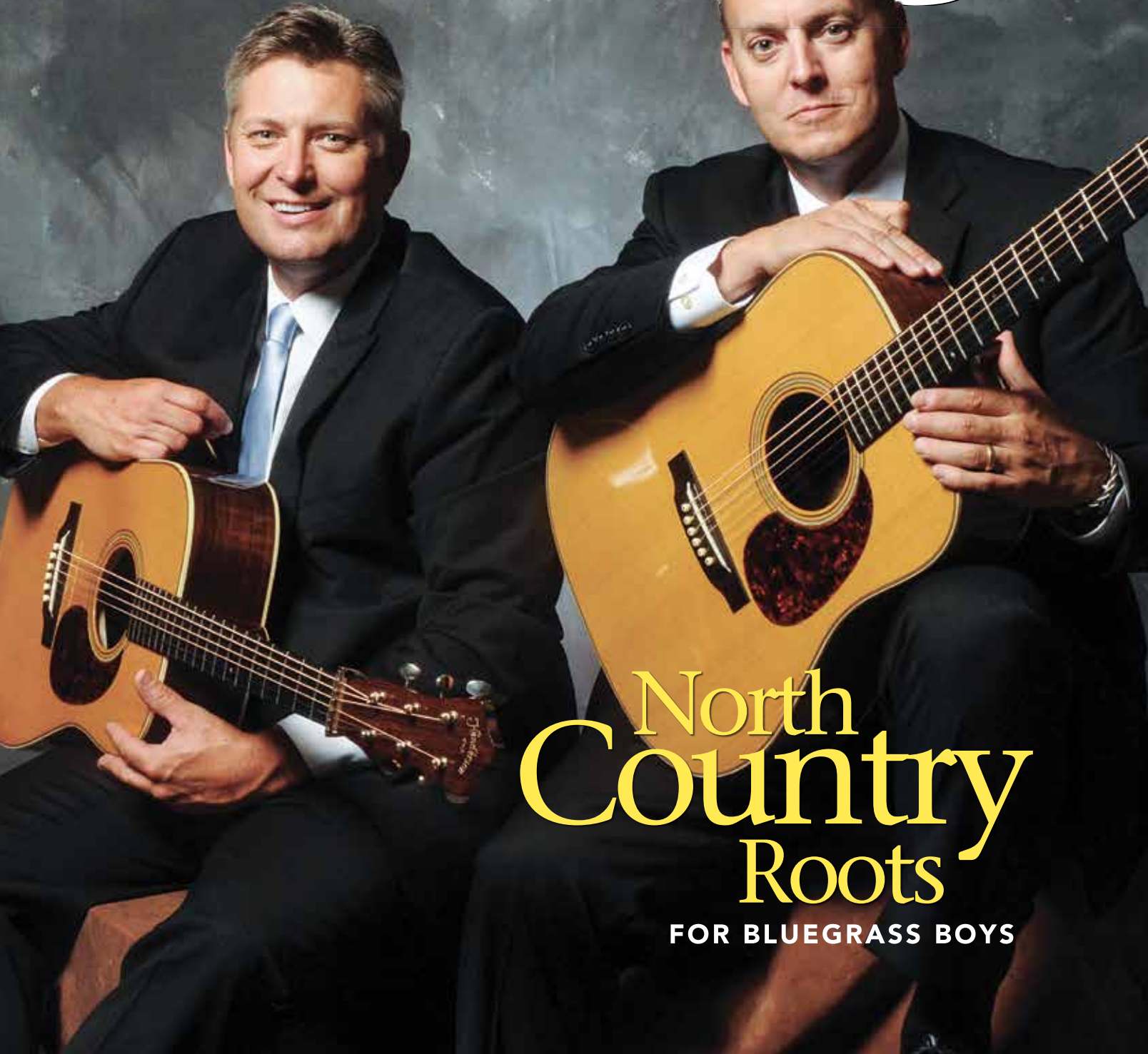
Business and Economics' New Dean » LEARNING BY EXPERIENCE

SUMMER 2015

# Plattsburgh

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

## magazine



# North Country Roots

FOR BLUEGRASS BOYS

# Set Sail REUNION 2015

All alumni are welcome. Honoring class years ending in 5 and 0.

**July 9-12** Barbecue at the Dock ■ Picnic Under the Tent ■ Tour the City by Bus ■ Networking Reception  
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We can't wait to welcome you back.  
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Volume 16, Number 2

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Alumni and brothers Eric '93 and Leigh Gibson '94 '96  
Photo provided

### At Left

Sailboats on Lake Champlain  
Ecopixel photo by Paul Hansen



# >> INSIGHT FROM THE PRESIDENT

## Many Reasons to Celebrate ...



One of the happiest days on campus is in mid-May when my colleagues and I join hundreds of parents and friends at commencement. This year, joy and pride filled the Field House when more than 1,100 students passed the tassel on their graduation cap from right to left, signifying they have completed their studies and are ready to become productive citizens of the world. We all applaud their success and celebrate the Class of 2015 and this achievement.

Another milestone will take place July 1 when we welcome Dr. Rowena Ortiz-Walters as the new dean of the School of Business and Economics. Our national search, which was chaired by Holly Heller-Ross, dean of Library and Information Technology Services, produced many qualified candidates. Dr. Ortiz-Walters was a standout. She is chair and professor of management at the School of Business and Engineering at Quinnipiac University in Connecticut and brings a wealth of experience and innovative ideas to the college. I am delighted she is joining us.

I am also pleased to have been selected recently by SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher to head the North Country's involvement in a national program that tracks six points of educational readiness to improve educational outcomes for children. StriveTogether's Cradle-to-Career Network is working with our community partners to collect data on area children's overall well being, including health, nutrition, cognitive abilities, empathy, cooperation and verbal skills, among other markers. The data will be gathered at six significant times during their education to track the development of fundamental skills that are indicators of academic achievement. Currently, we are focusing on the critical point before kindergarten, which is a predictor of scholastic success later on. The national program has a primarily urban focus, with Plattsburgh being one of only a handful of rural participants.

And finally, as president, I want to give one more hearty congratulations to our women's hockey team and Head Coach Kevin Houle for the amazing run that culminated in their second consecutive Women's Division III Ice Hockey National Championship and fourth in eight years. They make us all proud to be Cardinals.

Enjoy your summer.

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## New Dean of School of Business and Economics

Dr. Rowena Ortiz-Walters, professor and chair of management at School of Business and Engineering at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn., is the new dean of SUNY Plattsburgh's School of Business and Economics.



Dr. Rowena Ortiz-Walters

"Dr. Ortiz-Walters is a perfect choice to lead our School of Business and Economics," said Dr. James Liszka, provost and vice president of academic affairs. "Her qualities as administrator and scholar, and her outreach to communities, are sure to benefit SBE and our Plattsburgh businesses and organizations."

Ortiz-Walters was selected from a field of outstanding candidates, said President John Ettling.

Ortiz-Walters received a Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut, an MBA from Technology Management University of New Haven and a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Connecticut. Her interests include examining mentoring relationships as a career developmental tool for women and racial

minorities, issues of diversity in the workplace, and the entrepreneurial ventures of racial minorities and women.

She is a founding member of Quinnipiac University's B-WISE — Business Women in Search of Excellence — initiative and a member of Connecting Women, a School of Business Advisory Board committee. In addition, she has served as an advisory board member for a study of gender diversity for the Harvard Medical School and is co-founder of the Center for Women and Business at Quinnipiac.

As dean of the SBE, Ortiz-Walters will oversee 38 full-time faculty members and an undergraduate enrollment of more than 1,000. The school offers bachelor's degrees in 11 programs and minors in 10 programs. SUNY Plattsburgh again received accreditation in 2013 from the AACSB International — the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business — the premier accrediting agency for schools of business. Ortiz-Walters will oversee the accreditation processes, ensuring that the SBE exceeds AACSB standards.

"Many aspects of the school are attractive to me, including a strong faculty with terminal degrees, a strong international and first-generation student presence and an investment in new facilities," Ortiz-Walters said. "This is an exciting time in the history of the school, and I look forward to supporting its success as the next dean." ■

## Leadership Programs at Queensbury

Certified teachers wishing to enter into formal leadership roles are invited to learn more about the Queensbury campus's three in-class/online Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Leadership programs. The 30-credit-hour program enables students to qualify for a New York State Administrative Certificate at the building level.

"This program prepares educators for entry-level positions, departmental chairs and special-education roles," said Dr. Michael Johnson, coordinator of the program. To learn more about the teacher-leader, school-building-leader and school-district-leader certificates, contact Johnson at johnsomj@plattsburgh.edu. ■

## Joseph and Joan Burke Honored with Distinguished Service Award

Former SUNY Plattsburgh President Joseph Burke and his wife, Joan, a clinical social worker who maintained a practice in marriage counseling while her husband served at the college, were honored with the 2015 Distinguished Service Award at spring commencement exercises in May.

The late President George Angell created the Distinguished Service Award in 1966 to be given to a person or persons who have directly or indirectly played a key role in advancing SUNY Plattsburgh. Recipients have included New York Sen. Ronald Stafford, U.S. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, and retired Adm. Grace Hopper, U.S. Naval Reserve.

Both Joseph and Joan Burke served the college, the community and the state with distinction since arriving

in the North Country in 1973 when Dr. Burke was brought on to serve then-President George Angell as vice president for academic affairs. ■



Joseph and Joan Burke

Mark McCarty

## Graduate Psychology Program Fully Accredited Through 2020

“Well-trained and well-prepared” is how director of the School Psychology Master of Arts/Certificate of Advanced Study Program Dr. Laci Charette describes Plattsburgh graduate students who are earning the degree.



Dr. Laci Charette

The National Association of School Psychologists agrees. In January, NASP granted the program full accreditation through 2020.

“Our students get unique training opportunities,” said Charette, associate professor of psychology. Students gain real-time experience working with resources on campus and in the community, including teaching social skills to children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder in the college’s

NEXUS Program, evaluating children with learning and behavioral difficulties in the Center for Neurobehavioral Health, and completing practicum hours in local public schools. Before their internship year, students complete at least 600 hours of practicum work under the supervision of a certified school psychologist. In their third year, students complete internships with local schools and agencies, as well as internships across the state and country.

“Our students get marketable experience and have enjoyed 100 percent job placement for the last couple of years,” Charette said. Plattsburgh graduates are employed as school psychologists in the state and across the country. As a graduate of the college’s NASP accredited program, students are eligible to become nationally certified school psychologists.

In considering accreditation, NASP examines how well a program builds students’ competencies and gives them relevant experience. ■

### Supporting Faculty

In February, Charette attended the National Association of School Psychologists conference in Washington, D.C., which was sponsored by the James M. Johnson Endowment Fund.

The Johnson Endowment supports faculty development opportunities for current psychology faculty and was funded by Dr. James Johnson, professor emeritus of psychology, who is currently serving as the Plattsburgh College Foundation’s second vice president.



Franco Bastida '15



Yessenia Funes '15

## Students Earn Chancellor’s Award for Excellence

Franco Bastida '15 of Torreon, Mexico; Yessenia Funes '15 of Uniondale, N.Y.; Abigyle Ploetz '15 of Eden, N.Y.; and Natalie Spiess '15 of Sharon Springs, N.Y., received the 2015 SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence for their leadership, campus involvement, athletics, community service, academic excellence, and participation in fine or performing arts.

They joined honorees from all 64 SUNY campuses at an April ceremony in Albany. Ploetz received a Plattsburgh College Foundation Scholarship and majored in music and theater. As a study-abroad student, Ploetz studied Italian opera at the Florence University of the Arts.

Bastida received a Latin American Studies Scholarship and majored in Latin American studies. He completed an internship at the Aaron Woolf for Congress Campaign for New York’s 21st district.

Funes, who received a Redcay Honors Scholarship and a Dean Waldenberger Scholarship, majored in magazine journalism and environmental studies. She participated in the New York Times Student Journalism Institute.

And Spiess, who received a Plattsburgh College Foundation Scholarship for Academic Excellence, graduated in December with majors in political science and gender and women’s studies. She was president of the Center for Women’s Concerns for three semesters. ■



Abigyle Ploetz '15



Natalie Spiess '15

# Up Close and Personal With Virtual Therapy

By Carla Beecher

One end of Sibley Hall houses a children’s daycare center—toddlers push baskets across the floor and preschoolers scribble with crayons. On the other end is the Third-Age Adult Day Center where older adults with certain frailties spend the day with compassionate certified nurses’ aides and other health professionals.

In between are SUNY Plattsburgh college students learning myriad ways to tend to and educate those in each stage of life.

Among them is Christina Dornbush, who is one of 36 speech-language pathology graduate students. About 120 students apply each year for 18 open seats in the competitive program (there are 160 undergraduates majoring in SLP). She is one year into the two-year master’s degree program that helps clients “get their voices back.”



Andy Duback

Dr. Michael Morgan

has provided therapy to a bilingual child to boost her English language skills and improve her use of expressive language by using concepts like colors, shapes, numbers and functional language that she’ll need for preschool.

One of Dornbush’s clinical supervisors spring semester was Dr. Michael Morgan, professor of communication disorders and sciences and dean of the School of Education, Health and Human Services.

“Our field is science-based with a foundation in anatomy, physiology and neurology,” said Morgan, who has taught here since 1992.

“The field is vast — there is much more depth to it than people imagine,” Morgan said.

During spring semester, the Speech and Hearing Center began using a new and convenient way to reach clients who live at a distance. Telepractice allows clients and student clinicians to meet virtually via Skype or Facetime, which can be used anywhere. So when distance becomes a factor in getting treatment, therapists still can provide high-quality and effective services.

Dornbush used telepractice with a client who lives seven hours away by car. They worked on raising the client’s pitch level. With two computer monitors side by side, they Skyped on one and recorded and monitored the client’s voice with the other. Dornbush explained that the computer breaks down the elements of voice by measuring its energy and pitch. Short blue lines on the computer showed the frequency of pitch — a sort of visual biofeedback that assigns numerical data to it. Dornbush could then give the client techniques to help raise her pitch level.

“It’s so rewarding to have the knowledge to help clients,” said Dornbush. “For the first time in my life, I’m equipped to tackle client’s speech and language issues and it’s empowering.” ■



Andy Duback

Through telepractice and using Skype, graduate student Christina Dornbush provides high-quality speech therapy to a client who is hundreds of miles away.

**Speech-language pathologists** help prevent, assess, diagnose and treat speech, language, swallowing and social- and cognitive-communication disorders in children and adults.

Common disorders include stuttering; problems resulting from stroke, traumatic brain injury or dementia that involve organizing thoughts, paying attention, remembering, planning or problem-solving; and swallowing disorders due to injury or illnesses that can effect nutrition.



## WITH A NEW DIRECTOR AND A MASTER'S PROGRAM, EXPEDITIONARY STUDIES IS THRIVING

By Matt McDonald '14



SUNY Plattsburgh's new chair of expeditionary studies, Jerry Isaak, spent spring break in paradise. Far from sunny beaches and blue bays, he climbed white-coated peaks in Oregon's Willowa Mountains with students in a ski mountaineering class.

The skiing was beautiful. The chance to teach was even better.

Isaak, an associate professor, took the reigns as chair from program founder and longtime SUNY Plattsburgh professor, Dr. Laurence Soroka, in August 2014. Previously an outdoor program coordinator at Eastern Oregon University, Isaak said his new experience has unfolded as he expected it would.

"It's been challenging, and I've enjoyed the challenge," he said. "I've really enjoyed getting to know our students, faculty and alumni."

Isaak's ambitions include coordinating signature trips — he's lining up expeditions in Kyrgyzstan and Nepal that coincide with classes on campus — and fundraising for the new Expeditionary Studies Endowment Award, which will support senior students with their capstone senior expeditions.

"They pay mostly out of pocket, so many students in the past have had to dial back their dreams based on finances," Isaak said. "These are significant expenses at a time when cash flow is tight."

"Imagine if you could go anywhere in the world and think, 'I've been given the skills and equipment to deal with specific terrain, and because of (the endowment), I don't have to worry about airfare.' I think that's something that can be really beneficial for students."

Also new is a master's program. Designed for working professionals in the field, the program blends online classes with field-based guiding and teaching components. Students graduate with a Master of Science in Expeditionary Studies.

"We go into much more advanced theory and practice in our master's course, in part because the students have professional experience to base their thinking on," Isaak said. "Then they have a master's degree, which is sometimes required for higher level jobs in our field like administration and higher education. It's a neat program."

Of course, a primary concern for parents of prospective students has been, since EXP's inception, how the program is more than just an excuse for students to earn a degree while playing outside. What, they ask, can someone do with that?

The question isn't lost on Isaak.

"Like any program, we'll have graduates who don't work in our field," he said. "Can I advocate for students like that coming in, that it's worthwhile to take our degree? I think very much so."

Along with fitting as a "classic liberal arts degree" and preparing students well for careers in a variety of fields, Isaak said the program has an impact on the lives of its students and the people they interact with.

"To be able to share the outdoors with other people is hugely rewarding. When we get to take people in the outdoors, almost certainly it's going to be the best day of their week, often the best day of their month or year and sometimes a day they'll remember forever," he said. "That's tough to calculate against some kind of a paycheck or other variables. To prepare our students to share these experiences, which become profound life experiences, is pretty special." ■

ABOVE LEFT: Students in Assistant Professor Casey Henley's "Himalayan Mountains of Nepal" class got to experience the real thing in January 2014, trekking toward Mt. Everest base camp in Nepal.

## Planning Ahead

By Carla Beecher



A key tenet of the Expeditionary Studies curriculum is the need to plan: plan for the short and long term, plan for oneself and others and plan for realities and possibilities.

The program's founder, Dr. Laurence Soroka, and his wife, Cerise Oberman, recently made their own plan: to provide deserving EXP students financial support by establishing the Expeditionary Studies Endowment Award.

"We've found the college to be an extraordinarily comfortable and supportive place," said Soroka. "This gift is our way of giving back a little of what we've gained over the years."

Soroka started what is now a degree program not from a clear, direct path but from of an idea whose time simply had come.

When then-Provost Tom Moran put out a call in 1997 to faculty for new program ideas to "celebrate location," Soroka suggested studying the outdoors. Though his Ph.D. is in American studies, he taught climbing in Minnesota before moving east 27 years ago when Oberman took the job as dean of what is now Library Information and Technology Services. She retired in 2015.

Soroka, an associate professor, spent his first 12 years on campus teaching in the departments of English and history, but since then it's been all expeditionary studies.

"We were initially attracted to the area because of the uncluttered climbing areas and the ease of getting to the mountains, not to mention the proximity to Montreal," noted Oberman. "We planned to stay for three years, but the support and opportunities at the college kept us here much longer."

While they have long supported SUNY Plattsburgh financially, they decided to make a gift that will have a lasting impact on students. The endowment will fund deserving students enrolled in the undergraduate EXP capstone "Senior Expedition" course.

"Our dream would be to see the endowment grow to support all EXP senior expeditions, which would let all students dream large."

To add your support, go to [alumni.plattsburgh.edu/EXPendowment](http://alumni.plattsburgh.edu/EXPendowment).



# GIBSON BROTHERS' DEEP AND HONEST ROOTS

By Gerianne Wright

Eric '93 and Leigh Gibson '94 '96 may have walked away with bluegrass music's equivalent of a Grammy Award, but to them, receiving an honorary doctorate of fine arts from the State University of New York is the brass ring.

The International Bluegrass Music Association's Entertainer of the Year honorees received their honorary degrees at spring commencement in May. "I'm so honored by the SUNY doctorate; I feel I owe a great deal to (SUNY Plattsburgh)," Leigh Gibson said. "My life was shaped by my time in Plattsburgh."

## LOVED EVERY MINUTE HERE

The Ellenburg Depot, N.Y., farm boy said he spent most of his early years with a small group of similar people, so college opened his eyes and ears to differences.

"Plattsburgh introduced me to a variety of people, personalities and cultures," Leigh said. "I learned how to work with people who maybe didn't share my opinions and to understand where they and their opinions came from."

Eric concurred.

"I loved SUNY Plattsburgh. Loved being here; loved every minute of it," Eric said during a recent campus visit. "I flourished here. It was like breathing fresh air and drinking fresh water — it sustained me.

"How many people get this? It's an achievement, a huge milestone. My father-in-law (Eric met his future wife, Corina '95, at Plattsburgh) used to say don't brag, but I'll be tempted to trumpet this."

"Oh, definitely," Leigh said. "Sometimes, in this business, it feels uncomfortable promoting yourself, but you have to do it. But receiving this kind of honor — this will do it for you."

The Gibson Brothers — as they're known both professionally and around the counter of Dick's Country Store and Music Oasis near their hometown — emerged as bluegrass musicians in the late 1980s, playing at festivals and local venues like the Palmer Street Coffeehouse in Plattsburgh, where they had a public debut as teenagers. Both earned bachelor's degrees from SUNY Plattsburgh — Eric earning his degree in English in 1993 and younger brother, Leigh, earning a degree in communication mass media in 1994 and English in 1996.

The ability for the brothers to continue helping on the family farm, which is only 30 miles from Plattsburgh, allowed them "to remain grounded in what (they) consider deep and honest roots," Leigh said.

"Though I couldn't recognize it at the time, it was all I could ask for from an education." It was also all he could ask for personally, having met his future wife, Alison '96, here as well.

After graduation, Eric began a teaching career at AuSable Valley Central School while still performing weekends and vacations regionally and on the road with Leigh and the band that included Mike Barber on bass.

"I found myself being pulled so much by my music," Eric said. "We were getting more and more bookings further and further from home. I knew I had to ask my principal (Dr. John Gratto G'78 CAS '82) for a year off. I told him what I was up against, and he gave me a year."

He never returned to teaching, and the band, which now includes Clayton Campbell on fiddle and Jesse Brock on mandolin, has played in 44 states and seven countries.

Last October, fans of NPR's "A Prairie Home Companion" were introduced to the brothers when they appeared on the Fitzgerald Theater stage in St. Paul, Minn., with Garrison Keillor. They returned to the Fitzgerald and "Prairie Home" in January of this year.

## 'PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION' DEBUT

"I was very excited to do 'Prairie Home Companion,'" Leigh said. "It's definitely an American institution that reminds me of what our media can be. It's smart, funny, thought-provoking and supremely entertaining. Garrison is brilliant, and he surrounds himself with other brilliant people who pull that show off. It's incredible, really. I just hoped we could live up to the show."

Despite the kudos and awards and recognition, the brothers stay connected to their beloved North Country and alma mater. They often perform locally for charitable events, and they are contributors to SUNY Plattsburgh's Bluegrass for the Next Generation Project, which brings bluegrass music and instruments into local school districts and promotes the study of bluegrass music at the college. The Kelley and Shannon Gibson Bluegrass Scholarships were established for students who study bluegrass.

"We never expected to be artists or to be looked at as such when we started," Leigh said. "But folks see us that way. Looking back at those early performances, I think we just wanted to share what we'd developed around home with folks 30 miles down the road. It sure seemed like a big world back then.

"And now, 20 or more years later, we still just share who we are and what we've developed with people a little further down the road. Ours is a continuing story of hope and a willingness to continue into what is not known." ■

## HONORS AND AWARDS

**1998** IBMA Emerging Artist of the Year Award

**2003** "Bona Fide" placed top of Bluegrass Unlimited chart; placed on Americana and Billboard charts

**2010** "Ring the Bell" IBMA Gospel Recorded Performance of the Year

**2011** "Singing As We Rise" IBMA Album of the Year

**2011** "Help My Brother" IBMA Vocal Group of the Year; No. 1 position for eight months on Bluegrass Unlimited chart

**2013** "They Called It Music" Entertainer of the Year, Vocal Group of the Year, Song of the Year and Songwriter of the Year for Eric Gibson

 /GibsonBros

 @EricGibsonBros

For more information on Bluegrass for the Next Generation Project, visit [plattsburgh.edu/academics/bluegrass](http://plattsburgh.edu/academics/bluegrass).



# ADDING Breadth & Depth TO LEARNING

Research papers and reading assignments are still classroom mainstays, but a growing part of today's curriculum includes hands-on opportunities to get students out of their seats and into the real world.

Last year, over 4,000 students left the classroom to learn and do in the larger community, providing more than 384,000 hours of service. Of those, 2,634 were involved in academic applied learning, while the other 1,383 volunteered for projects such as Habitat for Humanity during Alternative Spring Break or Project H.E.L.P.'s soup kitchen at the Plattsburgh Salvation Army, among others. In all, 68 percent of SUNY Plattsburgh students gave back to their community.

"For credit or not, experiential learning prepares young people to enter the workforce as globally connected citizens of the world," said Dr. James Liszka, provost and vice president for academic affairs. "It benefits both our students and the communities where they gain that experience."

SUNY encourages students to pursue applied-learning during college, and Plattsburgh has made it one of its six strategic goals — enabling students to develop leadership skills, commit to civic involvement and establish partnerships and contacts.

"Experience gained in the laboratory, clinic or office setting allows students to acquire a deeper, more sophisticated understanding of their field," said Dr. Julia Overton-Healy, director of the Career Development Center.

*These PR-journalism interns in the Office of Marketing and Communications wrote the following profiles.*



**AMANDA VELEZ '15**, from Queens, N.Y., has a degree in magazine and multimedia journalism with a minor in Spanish. She received a Plattsburgh College Foundation scholarship and was the online editor for Cardinal Points, the award-winning student newspaper, as well as a mentor for Shine On!



**BRITTANY SHEW '15**, of Utica, N.Y., has a degree in journalism and public relations and served as FUSE editor for Cardinal Points. She was the event coordinator for the campus organization Shine On! and an admissions ambassador and tour guide.



**GABRIELLE BEAUREGARD '15**, from Rotterdam, N.Y., has a degree in magazine journalism and music. She was the Web editor of All Points North Online, the student-run magazine dedicated to North Country tourism since 2002. She also received the Louise Heisler Scholarship and the Hyman and Frances Krinovitz Scholarship.

## A JOURNEY OF Discovery and Purpose

By Amanda Velez '15



**DAVID SPERLING G'15** grew up around medicine. With physician parents, his earliest memories were of time spent in the hospital, watching nurses care for patients.

"They would say, '15 minutes is diagnosis and the other 30 is just talking with somebody and getting to know them,'" Sperling recalled. "They made it a much more humane practice."

Sperling, who earned a master's degree in mental health counseling, described the college's hands-on approach to education as invaluable.

He completed a practicum on campus in the Ward Hall Clinic, where he gained therapeutic practice knowledge and became familiar with an office setting.

In August he will finish a 9-credit internship at the Ometz Agency in Montreal that offers a variety of services including immigration, counseling, job searching, and assisted housing, that gave him a dynamic view of people with varying backgrounds and histories.

"A key component of the degree program is a real appreciation for multiculturalism and really understanding how many different ways you can understand culture and where someone comes from, and that's important," Sperling said.

Sperling plans to use his master's degree to work as a mental health counselor in a hospital setting.

"It's like my home away from home," he said.

In his two years here, Sperling said he was able to learn about himself and find direction about whom and where he wants to be.

"The program really makes you have a lot of self-introspection — to really learn who you are," he said. "There's an old Israeli saying: 'To know where you're going, you need to know where you came from.'" ■

## HANDS-ON Patient Care

By Brittany Shew '15



**ALICE COHEN '15** came to Plattsburgh from Plainview, N.Y., to get a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing.

After fundamental courses freshman year, Cohen, who received several scholarships, including the Susanna C. Burgett Scholarship and a Plattsburgh College Foundation Scholarship for Academic Excellence, spent the next three years learning patient care.

She applied the knowledge she learned in the classroom during clinical shifts at Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital near campus.

"I gained experience on general floors such as post-operative care, but also had many other opportunities," she said. "I had the chance to see a C-section, interact with patients on the Mental Health Unit and work at other facilities including the college's Traumatic Brain Injury Center, the H.K. Freedman Renal Center, and Clinton County Health Department, to name a few."

Closely monitored by her instructors, Cohen researched patients' histories and created care plans. She met with a patient's nurse in the morning and provided total care throughout the day, including charting and administering medication.

"Experiential learning allows students to increase knowledge, develop skills and clarify and foster values essential to nursing," said her advisor Shannon Hanshaw, assistant professor of nursing and nutrition. All nursing students complete clinical rotations and gain hands-on experience in the field.

Over winter break, Cohen spent a two-week immersion at North Shore Long Island Jewish Medical Center working 12-hour shifts in the ER where she "did everything from inserting lines to educating patients."

"It was a great experience and gave me the confidence I needed. It was so much more than just sitting in a classroom and reading about nursing, and it made me love nursing that much more." ■

## GETTING DOWN

# to Business

By Gabrielle Beauregard '15



According to recent graduate **SOFIA MONOSSON '15**, anything you can do to make a living has a business side to it.

The May graduate, who majored in international business, business administration and global supply chain management with minors in French and business analysis, completed two internships and semesters abroad.

Monosson attended the University of Quebec at Chicoutimi in 2013 where she participated in a French-language immersion program. "If I want to work in the international workplace, having a second language will be helpful," she said.

With help from her advisors and the Global Education Office, Monosson secured an internship at Management Centre Europe in Brussels, Belgium, for the spring 2014 semester. She said she improved her marketing skills by researching suitable clients and presenting their credentials in cohesive formats.

"They treated me like an employee. It was very professional," she said.

Monosson also completed a Plattsburgh-based internship in 2015 with Swarovski, a leading producer of precision-cut crystal. She used her global-supply-chain-management skills to track various products' shipping paths and map the overall productivity of the company.

"I was focusing on security risks," she said. "These are incredibly expensive crystals, and they wanted to know exactly where they were going and how long they stayed at each location."

"Even a basic professionalism class is important," she added. "How to address citizens from other countries and how to present yourself professionally really do matter."

Her internships and coursework raised Monosson's confidence level and she has "no real sense of worry" about what the future has in store. ■

## A STUDENT

# Teaching Students

By Gabrielle Beauregard '15



Early childhood education major **JOHN TREGAN '15**, is no stranger to the classroom. By participating in SUNY Plattsburgh's Project CONNECT program, the recent graduate experienced learning through the perspective of both a student and a teacher.

Tregan spent spring semester working as a student teacher in the Peru Central School District, where he helped teach third- and sixth-grade classes in two eight-week placements.

He said each placement brought its unique challenges and that working with different grade levels allowed him to see how children change as they age.

The first week focused on observation, with added responsibilities as the weeks progressed. During the final week, Tregan led three to four classes on his own from lesson plans he crafted himself.

"Solo week is great because you get the feeling for what the school setting is like," he said.

His lesson plans focused on student-centered learning, a technique that relays course material to students through peer interactions and activities instead of traditional lectures. He used open-ended questions in his lesson plans combined with the integration of technology and the development of 21st-century skills.

"You read the books and hear about how things work in an idealistic classroom," he said, "but when you actually get to try things out and put them into practice, you figure out what works best for you."

Though his lecture-based classes prepared him to create effective lesson plans using various teaching styles, Tregan said that teaching his own classes intimidated him at first.

"You are the role model in the room, so there are high expectations," he said.

He quickly overcame this obstacle and embraced his position, which he said affirmed his desire to become a teacher.

"I love it." ■

## WORKING OUTSIDE

# the Lines

By Amanda Velez '15



For **ROBERT WOLF**, art has been a part of life for as long as he can remember. His passion for it, however, developed over time as he gave his artwork to friends and acquaintances.

"It's kind of my way of getting to know people and developing relationships," Wolf said.

His contouring skills started in his coloring-book days, when his mother encouraged him to draw the lines before filling in the colors. Wolf, a transfer student from a community college in Rochester, N.Y., was recently accepted into the competitive Bachelor of Fine Arts program with concentrations in painting and printmaking.

Now, after having worked for Plattsburgh State Art Museum and Galleries Director Cecilia Esposito '77 (ART) and with David Driver, preparator, as a temporary-service assistant, he picked up a minor in museum studies.

Besides getting to know the people he works with, Wolf said his favorite part "is seeing the artwork Plattsburgh actually owns."

Wolf's position allows him to move around and do something different every day, whether it's assembling frames or hanging masterpieces by renowned artists such as Wassily Kandinsky.

"Robert's experiences at the museum will help him apply and expand on what he learned in the classroom, while gaining valuable skills necessary to succeeding in the professional world," said Samantha Bellinger, museum educator. "It's an opportunity to bridge the gap between theoretical learning and its real-world applicability."

Wolf plans to earn a master's degree. He hopes this experience will help him get his foot in the door of another job just like this one while he continues to hone his craft in the classroom. ■

## A TABLE

# for Two

By Brittany Shew '15



As front-of-the-house manager, **MARIAH BILOW '15** is responsible for making sure all aspects of a customer's experience at the Sibley Hall fine-dining establishment, Samuel D's, are enjoyable.

The hotel, restaurant and tourism graduate from Malone, N.Y., also worked at Mirror Lake Inn in Lake Placid this spring to gain more hands-on experience.

"I love the restaurant industry," Bilow said about teaching her classmates the steps of service, including how to serve and greet customers. She earned five credits for the practicum experience. "I like to work hard, and I'm so busy — that's why I love it."

HRT program students take lunch and dinner courses during which they serve customers and go on site visits. Classes include preparing full meals, appropriate preparation temperatures and the importance of health codes.

At Samuel D's, which is named for French explorer Samuel de Champlain, she assigned servers their tables, monitored the dining room set-up and taught her trainees how to best serve customers. "We learn proper serving etiquette and time-management skills," she said. The food preparation happens in the back of the house, where students learn their way around a kitchen.

Bilow works closely with a different student manager each week, showing them how to manage a staff and coordinate a dining room, which she describes as "completing a puzzle."

"Our practicum enables students to master the technical and management skills that will enhance their marketability after college," said John Parmelee, hotel, restaurant and tourism lecturer.

"I loved my job," added Bilow.

For reservations on Thursday evenings during the school year, call 518-564-4264. ■

# NEW MAJOR MEETS NEEDS OF CHANGING WORLD

# CYBER SLEUTHS

By Gerianne Wright

**T**J MAXX, PLAYSTATION NETWORK, CardSystems Solutions, Target and, most recently, Anthem are companies listed as having among the worst data security breaches of the 21st century, according to online security- and risk-management news site CSO Online.

While our online personal data is ripe for the picking by experienced hackers — costing victims billions of dollars — careers in computer security are equally plumb, from crime investigation to malware analysis, vulnerability research to information recovery. And with technology outpacing the workforce, students earning computer security degrees will find a bumper crop of opportunities upon graduation.

“Every day, we hear in the news about various security breaches — the existing problems are almost overwhelming. There is a huge demand for professionals who know how to help with these problems,” said Dr. Jan Plaza, associate professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science. “Technology is advancing at a tremendous pace; as a society, we’re faced with new challenges.”

“Job prospects are excellent,” added Dr. Delbert Hart, associate professor of computer science. “Computers are everywhere and in everything. There is a growing demand for specialization in computer security.”

As a result, SUNY Plattsburgh has developed and is now offering one of the only computer security majors among the SUNY comprehensive schools.

Students studying the subject will be offered a deep, broad understanding through an overlap of the department’s three majors: computer science,

informational technology, and computer security, Plaza said.

Russell Greaker, a junior from Wantagh, N.Y., was one of the first students to enroll in the computer security major.

“For most of my life, I was on the computer, whether I was gaming or on social websites like MySpace and Facebook,” he said. “A lot of the things we see today are all because of computing. For example, your cell phone ... is a computer. The signs you see on the side of the road were made by a machine that uses a computer. That is what drew me in: You can make things ‘come to life’ with just some lines of characters.”

On campus, Greaker works at the ResNet HelpDesk, and when he’s home, he works at the New York Hospital of Queens as a desktop technician.

“I was working there as an intern the last two summers,” he said. Over winter break, he was hired as a senior desktop technician. After graduating, he hopes to continue working at the hospital and possibly earn a master’s degree in the field.

The timing of the major couldn’t have been more perfect, Greaker said, calling his acceptance into computer security at the college “one of my proudest moments.” ■



Dr. Delbert Hart, center, and student Nicholas Ball, left, observe as Zachary Daniels reviews a game written in Java.

For more information on this new major, please contact us at [csc@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:csc@plattsburgh.edu).

# Making Cardinal Connections

## Leverage What You've Got

ACE alumnus challenges students. Again.

By Matt McDonald '14



Chris Steinhardt '91

**A**s a student at SUNY Plattsburgh, Chris Steinhardt '91 crammed his accounting major into three semesters with a clear intent — to work at one of the then-Big Six accounting firms.

He applied to all six before graduating even though only two of the companies recruited from Plattsburgh. When his top choice,

Arthur Andersen, replied with a rejection letter, he knew what to do.

"I didn't accept that," he said. "I knew it had nothing to do with Plattsburgh or grades. They gave an automatic 'no' for schools they didn't recruit from."

So he responded with a "you-don't-know-what-you're-missing" letter. He started work with the company two months after graduation and worked there for almost 11 years.

Now managing director at Grant Thornton, among the largest public accounting and consulting firms in the world, Steinhardt values the opportunity to impart what he has learned to SUNY Plattsburgh students. In April, he visited campus to do so. For the sixth time.

"I was no different than any of them 25 years ago," Steinhardt said. "Same seat, same thought process, wondering where I want to go. I'm an average Joe."

Steinhardt sees students — and people — everywhere struggle with being confident in themselves and what they've learned. In his interactions with students, he tries to help them focus on what they have rather than what they don't.

"I'm trying to demonstrate to them that they've got the skills," he said. "How do you

differentiate yourself? Be creative. Network. Establish communication."

Steinhardt's closest faculty connection and mentor, Dr. Mohamed Gaber, has coordinated each of his visits, the last with a grant from the Plattsburgh College Foundation and the Alumni Association as part of the Alumni in the Classroom Experience program. Steinhardt was on campus for six days.

Between class and open presentations, workshops and individual consultations, Gaber said Steinhardt interacted with more than 500 students.

"Plattsburgh students work hard," Steinhardt said. "I'd take them over many students at Ivy League schools."

As Plattsburgh moves toward becoming one of Grant Thornton's recruiting schools, Steinhardt continues to challenge students to use what they have.

"Leverage the resources available to you. They're here to help." ■



In April, Steinhardt welcomed Dr. Mohamed Gaber, current students and several alumni to Grant Thornton's Manhattan office. The company sponsored dinner, and Steinhardt offered a summer internship on the spot to an accounting student.

**Eight other alumni visited SUNY Plattsburgh as part of the ACE program during spring 2015.**

Corey Facticeau '96 interdisciplinary and marketing and entrepreneurship, Jenna Hoch '09 journalism and public relations, Danielle Poupore '10 English, Matthew Bergeron '99 political science, Sean Erreger '01 and Stephanie Oakley '07 psychology (SUNY Plattsburgh at Queensbury Branch Campus), Sara Meskunias '12 physics, and Martin Mitchell '94 marketing and entrepreneurship

## Small Gestures That Live In Our Hearts

By Brittany Shew '15

The path that led Diane Austin '73, MEd '76, the new president of the Plattsburgh Alumni Association, to her job as vice president of student affairs at Lasell College in Newton, Mass., began before she ever stepped foot on the Plattsburgh campus.



Diane Austin

She fondly remembers receiving a letter from the Plattsburgh Alumni Association with a little red cardinal on the top. It read, "Welcome. We would like you to know we're excited you're joining the Plattsburgh community — please let us know if we could be of assistance."

"Small gestures can live in our hearts for a long time," Austin said.

Austin, who earned a Bachelor of Arts degree

in English and a Master of Science degree in education with a concentration in college/agency counseling, began her term as association president January 1. She succeeds outgoing president Toni Nichels '88, who finished a three-year term in December.

As an undergraduate student in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Austin held a work-study position, served as a resident assistant, an orientation leader, a vice president of Macdonough Hall and was a founding member of a student advisory board for the Office of Alumni Relations. Her Plattsburgh days also allowed her to learn about higher education, hold internships during her graduate studies, meet professionals and "be the beneficiary of incredible mentoring relationships," she said.

An English major, Austin enjoyed many literature classes and had time to dabble in electives. She took Plattsburgh's first class in environmental science, a couple psychology classes and for three years was a member of a small touring choral group.

"My time there offered a large opportunity to grow and test new skills with tremendous support from faculty and staff," she said. "I felt as safe as possible to take some risks."

Austin came back to campus in the 1980s for a weekend alumni retreat, and 20 years later was blown away when she learned that she was nominated to be a Distinguished Visiting Alumna. In February 2004, as a DVA, she came to speak to students and connect with faculty members. She was asked to join the alumni board that summer.

"Diane Austin is a leader who understands the mission of higher education as well as the human element," said Joanne Nelson, director of alumni relations. "She combines the two to inspire alumni to offer their time, talent and treasure to her beloved alma mater. It is an honor to work with her and I look forward to the possibilities."

"As the Plattsburgh Alumni Association's new president, I inherited an organization from Toni Nichels, and her predecessors, that is in such good shape," Austin said. "I hope to maintain the quality that's been established, and I hope to formulate more avenues to connect alumni with the college and reinvigorate them with the spirit of SUNY Plattsburgh." ■

“My time [at Plattsburgh] offered a large opportunity to grow and test new skills with tremendous support from faculty and staff.”

### » Save the Date

#### 11th Annual Mark Rabin Memorial Golf Tournament

Westport Country Club, Westport, N.Y.

July 29, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

This golf tournament is a four-person scramble and is open to the public with a maximum of 144 players. Proceeds support the Plattsburgh College Foundation's Mark Rabin Memorial Endowed Scholarship in Marketing. The putting contest begins at 10 a.m. Golfers should arrive no later than noon for a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. For more information about registration or sponsorship contact Dr. Nancy Church at [nancy.church@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:nancy.church@plattsburgh.edu).

#### Homecoming 2015

Plattsburgh, N.Y.

Oct. 16-18, 2015

This weekend has something for everyone. In addition to some great athletics events, you'll find wine and beer tastings, socials, family-friendly arts events and more. Watch your email or visit [alumni.plattsburgh.edu/homecoming](http://alumni.plattsburgh.edu/homecoming) for more information.

## Building for the Future

By Ken Knelly

When Norman Radow '78 made the choice to attend SUNY Plattsburgh, the deciding factor wasn't academic programs or people he knew. He picked the state college that was about the farthest from his home, of which he knew very little.

"I wanted a totally new experience," said Radow, who grew up in the public housing projects of East New York, Brooklyn. "I'd never traveled, never been on a plane. I met different people and could test and try different classes and see what my passion was."

Radow's North Country years gave him that and more. The time in and out of classrooms set a course for a life of meaning, accomplishment and impact. From Plattsburgh, he went on to graduate from New York Law School, serve as a real estate litigator in New York City and in private practice.

Taking another turn onto the new-experience road, he responded to a newspaper ad in the late 1980s, moved to Atlanta and took up as general counsel for a foreign company with an office there. By 1994, he founded The RADCO Companies, a national real estate business that turns around multifamily developments and creates value for investors and residents.

"Plattsburgh gave me the tools I needed to thrive," Radow said. "It allowed me to think critically and write in a way that conveyed and argued a message. My education let me do anything I wanted."

Returning to campus in April as a Distinguished Visiting Alumnus, he spoke at this year's Days of Remembrance, a commemoration of the Holocaust. He also spoke in a half-dozen classes and gave a campus talk about finding your life's passion and using it to help others. His generosity is not limited to his alma mater. He has served on the Kennesaw State University Foundation board and on the board of New York Law School, among other endeavors.

Dr. Wendy M. Gordon, professor and chair of the history department, nominated Radow for the award and



In addition to spending time with students in the classroom, Distinguished Visiting Alumnus Norman Radow was the guest speaker for this year's Days of Remembrance commemoration.

called him a friend to the department. During his talk Radow announced his plans to establish the Norman J. Radow '78 History Scholarship.

"It can be hard for students to imagine where a history major can take them," Gordon said. "Mr. Radow gives them a blueprint as to where they can go."

#### DID ROME FALL AND, IF SO, WHEN?

Dr. John Meyers and Dr. Douglas Skopp are among Radow's key influencers; he still recalls the first final exam question from the latter: "Did Rome fall and, if so, when?"

Radow has honored both professors with his philanthropy. In addition to funding the Dr. John Myers History Department Endowment and the Dr. Douglas Skopp Competition on the Theme of the Holocaust, Radow announced plans to endow the Dr. Douglas Skopp Speaker's Series.

This year's recipient of the Skopp competition, nursing student Alice Cohen (see related story on page 11) said that hearing from an alumnus such as Radow was inspiring.

"Most students would say that they're not ready to graduate and enter adulthood — it's scary to figure out what's next. But after meeting Mr. Radow, I realize there is so much more to look forward to."

Such words made the trip to Plattsburgh — his third visit since graduation — worthwhile.

"It is exciting to speak to students and tell them not to waste the opportunity given them," Radow said. "To see their energy; it drives me. There is a world for them waiting just outside." ■

#### Honoring Special People

The Distinguished Visiting Alumni program annually honors graduates who have achieved an exceptional level of personal success.

Established in 1989 as a one-time Centennial Year event, the distinction has become an integral part of campus programming, with 68 individuals honored so far.

Its success is found in its three key goals: to increase quality interactions between alumni and students, to strengthen the relationship between successful alumni and their alma mater, and to involve alumni in the academic mission of the college.

## Women's Hockey

### Repeat Complete

By Matt McDonald '14

With less than one minute remaining in the 2015 Women's Division III Ice Hockey National Championship game, Elmira College launched the barrage. Soaring Eagles players slapped shot after shot into the Plattsburgh defense, desperate to force overtime. But when the season's final buzzer sounded, and the crowd in the Ronald B. Stafford Ice Arena roared, the red and white were still on top.

The 3-2 victory gave Plattsburgh its second consecutive national championship and fourth in program history – more than any other school in women's D-III hockey.



Gabe Dickens

In front of 1,245 die-hard fans at the Ronald B. Stafford Ice Arena the Cardinals secured their second-straight NCAA Division III Women's Hockey crown in March by defeating Elmira College 3-2. The latest national title is the fourth in the Cardinals' 13-year program history.

"This has been a great program from the minute I stepped on campus," said Plattsburgh athletic director Bruce Delventhal. "I have nothing but great pride in what they've been able to accomplish. These young ladies are fun to watch."

The title game was as good as rubber matches get. It was the fifth meeting between Plattsburgh and Elmira this season, with the two teams splitting the first four games. After an early season loss to the Cards, Elmira

won back-to-back games in Stafford Arena (Jan. 31 and Feb. 1) to claim the No. 1 national ranking. Plattsburgh slipped to No. 2 until they defeated the Soaring Eagles 4-0 in the ECAC West championship game on March 8. The conference championship gave the Cards the top seed in the national tournament.

The losses to each other were each teams' only setbacks of the season.

#### MORE ACCOLADES

In addition to the national title, Plattsburgh took home several individual honors. Coach Kevin Houle was this year's runner-up for AHCA Coach of the Year, while junior forward Giovanna Senese, who opened the scoring in the championship game with a breakaway goal, was named tournament MVP.

Three Cardinals were named AHCA/CCM All-Americans: senior Alyssa Parke (first team), Kayla Meneghin (second team) and Shannon Stewart (second team). ■

### Cardinals Get SUNYAC All-Conference Honors

The State University of New York Athletic Conference honored Men's Hockey Coach Bob Emery with his seventh Coach of the Year Award after guiding the Cardinals to a 20-5-2 overall record that included a 13-2-1 conference record that was tops in the SUNYAC. As the No. 1 seed in the SUNYAC Tournament, Emery helped Plattsburgh claim its 22nd SUNYAC Championship with a 2-1 victory over Oswego.

Four Cardinals were selected to the SUNYAC All-Conference second team in seniors **Brandon Beadow**, **Michael Cassidy** and **Connor Toomey**. Joining the trio of seniors is junior defenseman **Anthony Calabrese**. And junior forward **Kevin Emmerling** was selected to the SUNYAC All-Conference third team.



Gabe Dickens

Michael Cassidy on the ice

Track & Field Championships - Jess Huber named USTFCCCA All-American **Men's Basketball** 19-8, 13-5 SUNYAC - SUNYAC Regular Season Champions

For more, please visit [GoCardinalSports.com](http://GoCardinalSports.com)

## Men's Basketball

### The Winningest Coach in Program History

By Matt McDonald '14

The Cardinals were winning big as the game clock wound down on Jan. 20 in Memorial Hall, and Plattsburgh State men's basketball coach Tom Curle was all smiles—but not only because of the scoreboard.

With an 83-60 victory over SUNY Potsdam, Curle picked up his 205th win as Plattsburgh head coach, surpassing Joe Jastrab's previous program record of 204. The record had stood since Jastrab's final season in 1969.

"This means I'm getting old," Curle said. "To earn the right to become the head coach here was an honor. But I never thought I'd become the winningest coach in program history."

#### WINNING SEASONS

Curle, a 1982 Plattsburgh alumnus who then earned a master's in administration and leadership in 2011, was named head coach on July 30, 2003. In his 11 full seasons, he's led the Cardinals to four SUNYAC championships and six NCAA tournaments.

Athletic Director Bruce Delventhal said Curle is as good as it gets in Division III basketball. "As good as he is when it comes to basketball, though, he's even better as a mentor and a member of the Plattsburgh community," Delventhal said. "He supplements everything that's happening on the academic end. His graduation rate of his players is superior."

#### WINNING ISN'T EVERYTHING

While victories fuel Curle's fire, they aren't everything. "What I love about Plattsburgh basketball is the fact that I've been able to share it with young men who will be alumni of the college," Curle said. "That's something we share, and it makes this really rewarding." ■



Gabe Dickens

Men's Basketball Coach Tom Curle and team

## Women's Basketball

### Cheryl Cole Reaches Coaching Milestone

By Amanda Velez '15

Plattsburgh State women's basketball coach Cheryl Cole treated her team's victory on February 20 in Memorial Hall like any other. She didn't realize the 67-52 triumph over The College at Brockport was her 200th win as the Cardinals' head coach until someone told her later.

#### MORE THAN WINS AND LOSSES

In Cole's 18 seasons as coach, she has brought the team to 14 SUNYAC tournaments. Last year's campaign included a SUNYAC title and a subsequent birth in the national NCAA tournament.



Gabe Dickens

Women's Basketball Coach Cheryl Cole

As a successful college athlete herself, Cole said she has learned what really matters — teammates and time spent together rather than wins or losses.

"You remember the big ones, like my players will never forget winning the SUNYAC championship last year," Cole said, "but you forget the other ones."

Besides obsessing over the competition and always-changing routine, Cole loves seeing her players transition into outstanding professionals and family members.

"I can't be more proud than when I see a player come in as a freshman and what they're like when they graduate four years later." ■

## Selected Year-End Stats

**Women's Ice Hockey** 26-2-2, 16-2 ECAC West - ECAC West Tournament Champions - NCAA Division III National Champions  
**Men's Ice Hockey** 20-6-2, 13-2-1 SUNYAC - SUNYAC Tournament Champions - NCAA Division III Tournament Qualifiers  
**Women's Indoor Track and Field** Seventh-place finish at SUNYAC Indoor

## On the go?

Check out [@PBurchCardinals](https://twitter.com/PBurchCardinals) on Twitter for up-to-the-minute scores, results and all the events that are happening around Cardinal Country.

## The Gift of Scholarship and Hoops

By Carla Beecher

Knowing what's important in life is half the battle. For Peter G. Gerney '83 and his wife, Amy, family and education top the list.

The Gerneys have been longtime supporters of the college, and with the last of their six children about to finish college, the Pennsylvania couple are now in a position to increase their support to SUNY Plattsburgh. So right before the holidays they decided to make two gifts—one to honor Peter's parents and the other to recognize the men's basketball team.

The decision to make these gifts was spurred back in November, when Peter, Amy, and their 21-year-old son, Greg, attended a Cardinals tip-off basketball tournament at Lycoming College near their home. Before the game, Peter, who played for the team after being recruited by Norm Law back in the late '70s, and Amy hosted a team dinner at a local restaurant. Greg, who has Down syndrome, was invited by the ballplayers to eat with the team. It made his night.

"Our family is centered around Greg," Peter said with a smile. "We were very impressed with Coach Curle and the team. They are a positive, great group of young men

**“When we saw the team play and how they handled themselves—the Cardinals played good hard basketball that night—they had class, dignity. It made me proud that I graduated from Plattsburgh.”**

— Peter G. Gerney '83

who embraced our son. They were kind and gracious and Greg still has the picture of himself with the team on his phone." The Gerneys decided to make an unrestricted gift of \$2,500 to the men's basketball team to be used as needed. Head Basketball Coach Tom Curle said the extra funds will allow the team to do things they wouldn't ordinarily get to do—like taking a trip or buying Plattsburgh

travel gear—the extras that make the players feel special. The funds go directly to players. "When the team went to Florida last year, one player had never been south of Albany, never waded in the ocean. It's people like the Gerneys who truly enhance the Plattsburgh experience for our students." Gerney received scholarship money when he attended Plattsburgh, as did his brother, Stephen '84. Of his parents' six children, five graduated from SUNY schools. His parents believed and instilled in them the power of a broad-based liberal arts education. Gerney's father,

Albert, 89, still takes a class every semester at the local community college.



Head Basketball Coach Tom Curle, right, put his arm around Greg Gerney as they celebrated the team's 78-64 win over Lycoming College at the Dutch Burch Tip-Off Tournament last November. The Cardinals became the first SUNYAC team in the history of the tournament to emerge as the champions.

To recognize and honor his parents, the Gerneys gave \$25,000 to the Plattsburgh College Foundation as a Christmas present to his parents to establish the Albert J. and Margaret A. Gerney Scholarship Endowment for deserving students. They plan to add to the endowment in 2015 so that the first \$2,500 scholarship can be awarded to a student in the fall.

"It is a meaningful way to honor our parents," Gerney said. "A lot of people need financial help to attend school, so it's only right to help the next generation get the same quality education we received. We are fortunate to be in the position to help."

The scholarship will be targeted for liberal arts students. The Gerneys are big believers that one needs general education requirements to be a well-rounded person. "It's one thing to be an accountant, but to be a highly successful accountant it is certainly helpful to know something about the arts, history, science.

"Through my parents as well as Plattsburgh, I have an appreciation for lifelong learning. If you stop learning, you're done. Never stop learning."

Public relations students working with the Office of Institutional Advancement spent part of spring semester asking fellow students to give a buck.

## PLATTSBURGH STUDENTS



By Matt McDonald '14

As part of the new student awareness Give a Buck campaign, undergraduates distributed Burghy Bucks around campus. Resembling dollar bills, Burghy Bucks gave students the chance to compete to award one of 16 designated programs, an athletic team or an academic department with \$5,000, which was generously donated by alumnus Richard Pfadenhauer '85. Each of the designated programs is subsidized by the Plattsburgh College Foundation and includes scholarships, academic departments, athletic teams, Project H.E.L.P and Career Services, among others.

Burghy was on hand throughout the semester when the PR student "guerilla marketers" met with individual clubs and organizations. They discussed the Plattsburgh College Foundation's mission and captured photos of each group with Burghy after they filled in their Burghy Bucks. Campaign organizers posted the photos, along with updates and the vote tally, on the Give a Buck website: burghybuck.com.

All told, more than 1,000 Burghy Bucks were collected. The campaign culminated with an announcement at the Student Association's Spring Carnival in May that Track and Field was the winning program. ■



Public relations students (from left) Fredrica Appau, Jordan Seymour, Tyler Epidy, (Burghy), Kelsie Boudreau, Karolina Brodka and Nicole Vera show off their Burghy Bucks. The students worked with Institutional Advancement and their teachers, assistant professors Michelle Ouellette and Rachael Jurek, to create a student giving campaign to raise awareness about the role of the Plattsburgh College Foundation.

# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

## SUPPORTING STUDENTS AND PROGRAMS

The Plattsburgh College Foundation was incorporated on Jan. 21, 1964 by the State of New York to assist in advancing the welfare and development of SUNY Plattsburgh by accepting and encouraging gifts to the college, its faculty, students and affiliated organizations.

### FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FEB. 10, 1964

Dr. George W. Angell, president  
Genevieve E. Bazinet  
Leander A. Bouyea  
Olive M. Bradley '41, assistant secretary/treasurer  
E. Yale Clarke  
Franklin R. Forbes  
Agnes F. Luck  
B. Loyal O'Connell  
John H.G. Pell  
Emmett J. Roach, vice president  
Thomas A. Robinson, secretary/treasurer

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Dr. George W. Angell	Trent L. Trahan '70
Emmett J. Roach	Mark J. Rogers '72
Fred P. Merrihew	Daniel J. Burke '74 *
E. Glenn Giltz	Kurt Mowry
Curtis E. Shipman	Daniel J. Burke '74 *
Clifford E. Calongne	
Patrick T. Murnane	*Elected twice

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Harry E. Mowry	Donald L. Garratt '57 G '59*
Clyde A. Lewis	Dr. Celine R. Paquette '60
Sen. Ronald B. Stafford	*first executive director

### FISCAL YEAR 2013-14

- Total Foundation Assets: \$23,226,758
- Total endowment: \$18,022,547
- Student Aid: \$1,215,578
- Scholarship awarded: 903 awards to 803 students
- Gifts: \$2,544,650
- Donors: 4,827

 THE PLATTSBURGH COLLEGE FOUNDATION

## A Life Filled With Gumption and Determination

By Carla Beecher

Both born children of the Great Depression, the late Dr. Jonathan M. Allen and his wife of 57 years, Grace, were people with gumption.

It's not a word heard that often these days, but it perfectly describes this couple who had courage, common sense, determination and initiative — and who valued family and education highly.

As a final act of generosity to college-age young people in and around Plattsburgh, Grace Howard-Allen, who died in June 2014 at the age of 100, left the remaining \$500,000 from an IRA to the Plattsburgh College Foundation to manage and distribute the Allen-Howard Scholarship. The funds were added to the amount that initially created the Allen-Howard Scholarship Foundation upon Jon's death in 2005 and brings the total

family commitment to more than \$1 million. It supports students hailing from northeastern New York and is based on academic merit and financial need.

"Grace grew up on a subsistence farm in Michigan where she learned self-sufficiency," said daughter-in-law Eileen Barber Allen '77, G'87, coordinator of the GIS laboratories in the Center for Earth and Environmental Sciences who is married to one of the couple's four sons, Peter '77.

### A RENAISSANCE WOMAN

"She was the smartest person I've ever known in an academic sense," Barber Allen said.

To put herself through college in the 1930s, Grace picked and delivered berries for 10 cents a quart while her mother contributed money from selling farm eggs. Grace studied commerce and math and, because of the Great Depression, was the only one in her class to get a job right after college. She first taught school before deciding to join the Navy. With a new job at the Navy's Hydrographic Office in Washington, D.C., she earned top clearance and helped track submarines during WWII.

Grace met Jon in Washington where he was completing a surgery internship at the National Naval

Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. Both were in the thick of war efforts. Jon was always appreciative of his scholarship to Williams College, his schooling as a surgeon at Albany Medical College and the opportunities for medical training he received in the Navy.

After marrying in 1948, they returned to Jon's native

Plattsburgh where he began to build a general surgery practice. They started a family, and three of their four sons, David '74, Paul and Peter '77, were Plattsburgh State Hudson Scholars. Paul graduated from Cornell University and earned his MD in emergency room medicine from Upstate Medical Center. Jonathan, their youngest son, graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology as an electrical engineer.

Grace ran Jon's office until he retired in 1982. Ever curious, she bought

herself a computer when she turned 85 and took a word processing class.

"Growing up in the Depression was important for both of them," said Eileen. "They had a can-do attitude and did so much for others." ■



From the spring of life to autumn — Dr. Jonathan M. and Grace Howard Allen were married in 1948. The couple stand in the flower garden of their University Place home — across from the college and within a short walk of the hospital, where Dr. Allen spent most of his career



### Allen-Howard Scholarship

- 1960 College-tuition fund established for Allen family members
- 2000 Not-for-profit Allen-Howard Scholarship Foundation established
- 2005 Plattsburgh College Foundation begins managing fund
- 2014 Final gift from Allen-Howard Scholarship Foundation



# CLASSNOTES

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1952



**Patricia Burba Cleary (NUR)** has self-published a romance mystery novella, "Beneath the Roses." She held a book-signing event at The

Book Store, Stuyvesant Plaza, Albany, N.Y.

1956

**Bobbi McQueen (EDU)** and her husband, Joe, reside in Boynton Beach, Fla., during the winter months where her SUNY Plattsburgh roommate, **Anne Vitter-Frye (EDU)**, is a neighbor. During the summer, the couple resides in Grand Isle, Vt.

1960

**Marlene Perkins Waite (EDU) G'80 (EDU)** and her husband, **Irv Waite '67 (EDU) G'71 (EDU)**, are in their 20th year of retirement from the Plattsburgh City School District, where Marlene taught at Oak Street Elementary and Irv taught at Duken Elementary School. The couple are parents to sons **Scott '84 (EDU)** and **Michael '86 (EDU) G'91 (EDU)**, who, along with their wives, **Carol '84 (EDU)** and **Linda '84 (ENV) G'94 (EDU)**, teach in the area.

1965

**Reunion Class: 50 Years**

1966

**Cheryl Maxwell Vieira (NUR)** and her husband, Marc, moved from the mountains of Northern California to Fort Collins, Colo., in order to enjoy the great outdoors there. Vieira continued her travels by recently visiting Iceland and Greenland.

1968

**Alan Geldin (PSY)** retired as a clinical audiologist in Niagara Falls Dec. 31, 2014, after 44 years of professional clinical experience. After graduating from SUNY Plattsburgh, he earned a master's degree in audiology from

Syracuse University in 1970 and joined the staff of Mount St. Mary's Hospital in Niagara Falls as a full-time audiologist and director of the speech and hearing center there. In 1980, Geldin began a hearing conservation program for factory workers. He resides in Grand Island, N.Y.

1970

**Reunion Class: 45 Years**

1973



**Diane M. Austin (ENG) G'76 (EDU)** became president of the Plattsburgh Alumni Association in January and will serve her alma mater until

Dec. 31, 2016.

1975

**Reunion Class: 40 Years**

1979

**Christine Monroe (PSY)** is vice president and chief financial officer at ANDRUS, a family-centered organization that provides programs and services for children, families and communities in Yonkers, N.Y. Monroe is responsible for the fiscal operations and oversight for the provider. For the past 35 years, she has worked for ARC of Rockland, most

recently as associate executive director for finance and administration. Prior to that, Monroe served as director of revenue management and director of employment services, among other roles throughout the agency's programs. She is involved in her community and sits on the board of the Visiting Nurse Service of Winchester and is a member of various financial committees, including the state Financial Manager's Association and Interagency Council Fiscal Managers Committee.

1980

**Reunion Class: 35 Years**

1983



**Marty Bohunicky (COM)**, president of Working Pictures Inc. in Albany, N.Y., a video production company he formed in 1997, received

the Outstanding Achievement Award at the Albany Ad Club ADDY Awards dinner March 6, 2015. Bohunicky, who has produced television commercials for his alma mater, has been an award-winning video director for the past 30 years. He has garnered numerous local, regional and national awards. His achievements include a "Top 100 Producer in America" ranking by AV Multimedia Producer Magazine, the 2009 Albany-Colonie Chamber Micro-Enterprise Award, multiple American Marketing Association award-winning campaigns, more than 30 NORI/ADDY awards including two Ad Club Betsy awards and more. His company supports local non-profit organizations and has provided fundraising videos for The Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center, Make-a-Wish, Special Olympics, and the American Red Cross. He has also contributed time and video production services to industry events such as the American Marketing Association Mark of Excellence Awards, the Albany-Colonie Chamber of Commerce annual dinner and the Ad Club.

1989

**Dr. Joseph Segriff (ENG) G'90 (ENG), CAS '93**, earned a master's degree in psychology with a specialization in sex offenders in May 2014 from Kean University, Union, N.J. It is his fourth master's. In January 2013, Segriff earned

## Ready to START Something?

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# STARTUP-NY

# CLASSNOTES

a master's in psychological counseling from Monmouth University, West Long Branch, N.J. He is a professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, N.J., and is studying to become a clinical psychologist/psychotherapist and is a doctoral student at Rutgers University.

1990 ✓

**Daniel Sargent (ENG)** of Holland Patent, N.Y., is director of continuing education at Herkimer College, where he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Office of Continuing Education, including the supervision and development of noncredit programming including community interest, fitness center and professional and workforce development; budget development and management for the Community Education Office, One Stop outreach and the Cogar Gallery; grant writing and managing the usage of campus facilities and related services. He has served as the assistant to the president since 2007 and serves on the board of directors for Catholic Charities in Herkimer County.

1991 ✓



The **Rev. Doug Leonard '91 (ART)**, executive director of Al Amana Centre in Oman, was invited to moderate a meeting for King Abdullah

of Jordan and Prince Charles of Great Britain in February in Amman. King Abdullah and Prince Charles have been mobilizing religious leaders to build a coalition to prevent the spread of ISIS. Earlier in the year, they gathered leading Muslim clerics and Christian leaders from Africa, the Middle East, the United States and Europe to strategize about how to engage religious leaders in countering terrorists groups like ISIS.

"It was an immense honor to moderate this meeting, and it was an inspiration to witness such a unified and coordinated response coming from key Muslim and Christian Arab leaders," Leonard said. "Every Muslim cleric around the table, people in positions to influence Muslim perspectives globally, strongly denounced ISIS as terrorists. I sometimes hear Americans ask, 'Why aren't Muslim leaders speaking out against ISIS?' In February, I witnessed that they are, loudly and clearly."

Leonard has been serving on a committee to draft a United Nations

Security Council resolution calling all nations to work with religious leaders in countering ISIS. Leonard serves as the executive director of Al Amana Centre, an academic center for dialogue between Muslim leaders from Muslim-majority nations and political scientists from national secular contexts. The center trains diplomats from the United States and Europe in the intersection of religion and diplomacy in the Middle East.

1994 ✓

**Dr. Douglas Guiffrida (BUS) G'95 (CLG) CAS '02**, associate professor in counselor education at University of Rochester's Warner School of Education, published the book "Constructive Clinical Supervision in Counseling and Psychotherapy." Guiffrida is an approved clinical supervisor, a nationally certified counselor and a licensed mental health counselor with nearly 20 years clinical supervision experience. He has taught a doctoral-level class in clinical supervision since 2000. The author of more than 30 articles and book chapters in leading counseling and higher-education publications, he has served as associate editor for best practices for the "Journal of Counseling Development," among other publications. He received the 2007 American Counseling Association's Ralph F. Berdie Research Award, which recognizes innovative college student affairs research.

1995 ✓

**David Marceau (COM)** graduated April 18, 2015, from the University of Connecticut's executive MBA program in Hartford. Marceau is CEO of Ridgefield One, a specialized staffing agency with divisions in information technology, administrative and environmental services with offices in Plattsburgh and Ridgefield, Conn. Marceau is on the board of directors of the Ridgefield Education Foundation and the CT Staffing Association.

2002 ✓

**Selviana Banua Bates (LAS)**, a student at Charlotte (N.C.) School of Law, was a finalist in the school's Case Summary Writing Competition. To compete, she had to summarize a real case that was scheduled to be argued by the 4th Circuit Judges Oct. 31, 2014. As one of the top three finalists, she was invited to a private luncheon with the

judges. In addition, she was selected to represent her school at the American Bar Association's Negotiation Competition in Macon, Ga., in November 2014. Bates' husband, **Michael Bates '02 (LAS)**, is vice president for international government affairs with Citigroup Foundation in Essex Junction, Vt.

2004 ✓

**Zac Conley (BUS)** is owner of the Albany, N.Y., commercial real estate advisory firm Conley Associates, which he purchased from his uncle in December 2014. Conley started working for his uncle after graduation. He then joined Carrow Real Estate Services in Albany and most recently served as a senior adviser for commercial real estate developer First Columbia LLC in Latham, N.Y. As owner of the firm, now called Cresa Albany, Conley oversees nine employees.

2007 ✓

**Krystal Lugo (HIS)** was promoted at the March of Dimes Foundation in White Plains, N.Y., from business coordinator of revenue development to manager of online fundraising.

2011 ✓

**Thomas Johnson (GEN)** is a health and fitness coach who was certified by the National Posture Institute, which specializes in correcting posture for gym enthusiasts.

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The next time your phone rings and there's a Cardinal Caller on the other end, **please take a few moments to say hello.**

It only takes five minutes to connect, make a difference and **show your alma mater—and today's students—you care.**

# CLASSNOTES

## A Plattsburgh Wordsmith

By *Amanda Velez '15*

*Suzanne Young '98 found inspiration for her writing at SUNY Plattsburgh. Now she's a New York Times best-selling author.*



**Tell me about your time here.**

For me, going to Plattsburgh was the first time I got to be on my own and find who I was, and I'm really glad it was there. I was a writing arts major, and I found my own hope through writing, and that's kind of what changed my life.

**How did the program influence you?**

I think it was the sharing out loud. Having to think outside the box helped me build my confidence. It wasn't so much the technical aspect of it, but the inspiration that it provided and the purpose that it gave me.

**How did reading your stories aloud help your writing?**

You need to have someone who can be your cheerleader, who can critique your work, and who reads your work consistently. Maybe that's why I ended up writing young-adult fiction, because that was my first audience.

**What sparked your interest in writing sci-fi?**

When I was in high school, I had some struggles of my own with depression and suicidal thoughts, so I was kind of using that to start a story. I think that people can see the truth in something that's not so close to reality, so when I exaggerated it into this sci-fi kind of world, people were more comfortable seeing the emotions in it.

**Did you always know you wanted to be a writer?**

Up until I sold my first book in 2008, I never thought I could be a professional author. Becoming a New York Times best-selling author was definitely an absolute dream come true, a total surprise. I'm also a high school English teacher in Gilbert, Arizona, so my students are huge supporters of my work. They help me do my little launch parties and stuff like that. The day I heard *The Treatment* was a best-seller, I was in class and we all got to celebrate together. It was just one of those huge moments for all of us. One of them even told me, "We did it!"

**Know an alum you think we should feature? Nominate a #PlattsGrad at [alumni.plattsburgh.edu/plattsgrad](http://alumni.plattsburgh.edu/plattsgrad).**

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# Retiree Tackles All 46 High Peaks in Eight Years

By Gerianne Wright

Rose Anderson Linfoot cracked open a bottle of champagne on the summit of Cliff Mountain with her daughter, Heather, celebrating not only reaching the top but the end of a life-changing journey.

The Cliff Mountain hike on Sept. 20, 2014, three days after her 62nd birthday, was Anderson Linfoot's 46th out of 46 Adirondack high peaks, making her eligible for inclusion in the exclusive ADK 46ers Club. What makes Anderson Linfoot's story a little



Rose and her daughter Heather celebrate Rose's 46th peak, Sept. 20, 2014.

more remarkable is the fact that she hiked her first high peak, Cascade, at the age of 54. That's an average of more than 5 and a half mountains and 25,330 feet a year. For some, the challenge takes a lifetime.

"I absolutely love the mountains, and I love to hike," said

Anderson Linfoot, a proud member of the SUNY Plattsburgh Class of 1995 and former director of alumni relations. "I so enjoy setting goals — both personally and professionally — so a 46er I decided to pursue."

Anderson Linfoot was at a crossroads in her life. Divorced a few years before, she decided she needed "to do something just for me," she said. "And I knew this would be a truly wonderful experience."

Her three adult children, Eric, Sean and Heather, often accompanied her on her mission to tackle all 46 peaks — those in the Adirondacks whose summits are more than 4,000 feet.

While Anderson Linfoot was still in the Office of Alumni Relations, heading out for a day's climb in the Adirondacks was as easy — the majority of the peaks are in central and northern Essex County, an hour or so away.

However Anderson Linfoot bid SUNY Plattsburgh farewell in 2008 after more than two decades and took a position as assistant vice president for college advancement at SUNY Geneseo — nearly seven hours away from Plattsburgh. The logistics suddenly became a little more complicated.

But the call — and challenge — of the Adirondacks was strong, and she became even more determined than ever to earn that ADK 46er badge.

"The mountains give me such a sense of peace, and I feel

so centered with life and the universe during the hike and after," she said. Since moving to Geneseo, Anderson Linfoot met and married her husband, John Linfoot. The septuagenarian has accompanied her on her remaining hikes. In fact, he helped



Rose and her family set out on the trail.

her celebrate her retirement from Geneseo, where he served as director of special development, on a hike in June 2012.

"I hiked Basin and Haystack to celebrate my retirement with a party of 11, including my husband, children, oldest grandson and good friend. This was a memorable occasion with lightning and hail," she said.

Like many first-timers, Anderson Linfoot chose Cascade for her first hike in August 2006. Although its summit is at 4,098 feet, the trailhead starts out at 2,158 feet.

Her greatest challenge in her journey was Santanoni Range.

"I hiked in on Friday night with a pack too large and too heavy. The next day, the goal was to climb all three — Santanoni, Panther and Couch," she said. "I found myself dehydrated for the first time in my life. I completed it but went directly to my tent without dinner. I really do not know how I did this. Mind over matter."

But one of her favorite hikes was taken with her oldest son, Eric, a career Navy man.

"We were going to meet a guide to hike two of the three trail-less peaks in the Seward Range, Emmons and Donaldson. The guide said there was not enough daylight in September to do all three, (but) my son and I captured all three. What a treat." ■



Rose and her dog Skyler on her first high peak

**Calling All 46ers** If you are an alum and have climbed all 46 peaks, please send in a photo and note to [alumni@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:alumni@plattsburgh.edu) and we'll include it in a future issue of the magazine.

# FREE SWAG for your news



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# Recent Grad Succeeding Behind the Scenes

By Amanda Velez '15

Trevor Kent '14 took the long road to Los Angeles. Literally.



Kent started his first TV/video production gig in Los Angeles just four days after he graduated. Now, having already freelanced for MTV, ReKon Productions and ABC, he's living his dream — one that he didn't always know was possible.

At SUNY Plattsburgh, along with being a TV/video production major and an athlete, he was a member of the outing club and WQKE radio station and captain of the jiu-jitsu team. He also held various positions at Plattsburgh State Television (PSTV).

## Seizing Opportunities

Kent appreciated the fact that Plattsburgh allows students to use equipment freshman year. He said when he looked into communications programs at other schools, he was surprised that many students in those programs can't touch the equipment until their junior year.

By the time Kent was ready to graduate, he had enough clips to show employers that he knew what he was doing. When his aunt, a creator and executive producer for USA Network's "Benched," offered him a job in LA, he jumped at the opportunity.

"A lot of the TV industry is who you know," Kent said.

However, a lot of it is also what you're willing to do for it.

When they finished filming the show, Kent went back home to the Hudson Valley for a month, where he helped his little sister depart for college. Then Kent road-tripped for 41 days back to California with everything he needed. Except a plan.

## Persistence and Patience

After missing a gig with Dr. Phil by two days because of his trip, he bided his time as a busboy and barista. Now, he's a lead runner for A. Smith & Co. Productions, one of the biggest production companies in the country. His position requires him to be multifaceted — some days he runs errands and fills out paperwork, while on others he serves as the key production assistant on set.

Looking back on his experiences, Kent said that of all the people he met, the ones who succeeded were the most dedicated and hardworking. They were the kinds of students who constantly stayed up late to not only get things done but to get them done right.

"If you want to do something and you really like it, keep going for it," Kent said. "Try as hard as you can, put your heart and soul into it, and things will happen."

Know an alum you think we should feature?

Nominate a #PlattsGrad at [alumni.plattsburgh.edu/plattsgrad](mailto:alumni.plattsburgh.edu/plattsgrad).

## EOP Reunion in the Big Apple

By Amanda Velez '15

New York City's Club Quarters Midtown was the place to be during an exclusive alumni event in the Big Apple for more than 70 graduates of SUNY Plattsburgh's Educational Opportunity Program.

Alumni enjoyed refreshments as they were welcomed by Distinguished EOP Alumna Pamela Hewitt '74, President John Ettling, EOP Director Kyla Relaford '02, EOP Counselor Amy Daniels '08, EOP Counselor Cassie Christman and Associate Vice President for Student Life Michele Carpentier. Alumni reconnected with each other and with EOP.

"It felt a lot like a family reunion. There was a lot of hugging, a lot of tears, a lot of laughter," Relaford said.

Hewitt, the event's host and sponsor, said, "If not for EOP, I may not have had the opportunity to attend college. It afforded me the opportunity to live away from home for the first time, to experience a diverse living environment, to learn to travel on my own, to manage a budget, tackle racism, teach high school students, intern in New York City, eat foods I had never tasted and adapt to and enjoy all that the four years of college had to offer."

She added that she hoped to see alumni get involved at earlier points in their careers. Hewitt established the Lynne White Scheider Memorial Scholarship in memory of her Plattsburgh roommate as a way to assist EOP students. She also helped create the CareerEdge program for EOP students. "I would like to see more students receiving the financial, emotional and educational support that programs like EOP provide. Those of us who have grown through EOP have a responsibility to ensure it has a future. We are hoping for involvement with mentoring, the CareerEdge program and internships, in addition to financial support. There are so many ways to give back."

That sentiment was embraced by Hewitt's peers. More than 77 percent of alumni in attendance made a charitable gift to the program on the spot or online immediately after the event. Many alumni also volunteered to help strengthen the EOP alumni family. The NYC alumni reunion also inspired other EOP alumni to support the program, even though they were unable to attend. More than 70 percent of all donors to EOP to date were prompted to make a gift to EOP through communications related to the gathering.

"Many of our alumni are ready to give back and are uniquely qualified to do so," according to Relaford. "We are just opening doors and creating opportunities for these connections to flourish." ■



Keshawn Swanston '11, Anthony Williams '08 '10, Omefa Prass '08 and Yaa Yaa Whaley



Jocelyn Rios '11 and Terrell Lopez '07



Tiffany Hunter '08, Gernard Alston, Shazzia Hines '08



President John Ettling with Joel Collado '12

The annual **CareerEdge Weekend** conference is held on campus during Homecoming in October and gives EOP alumni a chance to help current EOP students. The three-day conference offers alumni panels, development of etiquette and communication skills, workshops, mock interviews, networking opportunities and more.

"It's really an intensive weekend that cannot be done without alumni support," Relaford said.

Learn more and view the NYC event photos at [plattsburgh.edu/alumni/eopnyc](http://plattsburgh.edu/alumni/eopnyc).

# Celebrations

2003 ✓

**Gretchen Weiler (EDU)** and James Ironside announce their engagement. Weiler is a teacher in the Rome (N.Y.) City School District. She received her master's degree from Touro College in New York City. Ironside is a professional with Professional Golfers Association in Alburg, Vt. A Nov. 7, 2015 wedding is planned.

2004 ✓



**Frank Cote (MAT) G'10 (EDU)** and **Jenifer Provost '13 (IND)** announce their engagement. Cote is a teacher in the Chazy (N.Y.) Central Rural

School District. Provost does fundraising and event planning for a local non-profit organization. An August 2015 wedding is planned.

2006 ✓



**Lauren Meath (PSY)** and **Andrew Ohrin (EDU) G'08 (EDU)** were married in August 2014. Meath graduated from John Jay College of

Criminal Justice in 2009 with a master's degree in forensic psychology. Ohrin teaches high school mathematics in the Hudson City School District.

2007 ✓



**Janis Noble (EDU) CAS '09** and **Andrew Krug '11 (HIS) G'11 (EDU)** were married Oct. 5, 2014 in Lake George, N.Y. Noble is resident director

and academic coordinator in the Office of Housing and Residence Life; Krug is SUNY Plattsburgh cross country head coach and assistant coach of track and field. The couple met at SUNY Plattsburgh the summer of 2006 when both worked summer orientation. They reside in Plattsburgh.

2008 ✓



**Derek Hallam (PSC)** and **Leanne Chace** announce their engagement. Hallam is a graduate student at the University of Rhode Island working

toward a master's degree in public administration with a focus on labor relations. Chace has a master's degree in special education and is employed at Acoustical Supplies in Providence. The couple plans an August 2015 wedding.



**Keelia Smith (PSY)** and **Terry Franks** were married Dec. 20, 2014 at St. Edmund's Church in Ellenburg, N.Y. Smith is a certified daycare provider

at Kiki's Daycare in Dannemora, N.Y. Franks is an assembler for Nova Bus in Plattsburgh. The couple resides in Dannemora.

2013 ✓

**Jessica Van Splinter (ENV)** and **Travis Lilly (ENV)** announce their engagement. The couple is living and working in Salt Lake City, Utah. A spring 2016 wedding is planned.

## SOMETHING TO CHEER ABOUT?

Do you have something to celebrate? Please send your good news to us for the next Plattsburgh magazine at [alumni@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:alumni@plattsburgh.edu).

*Photos (jpgs and tiffs) are appreciated.*

## CLASSbabies

1988 ✓



**Dr. Julie Ann McIntyre (PSY)** and her husband, John, announce the birth of their daughter, Juliette Anita, July 16, 2014. She joins big brothers Joseph, 15, and J.W., 19. Julie is an associate professor of psychology at The Sage Colleges in Troy, N.Y. John is the

publisher and co-owner of The Spotlight Newspapers in Albany, N.Y. The family resides in Ballston Lake, N.Y.

2004 ✓



**Justin Elmendorf (COM)** and his wife, Laurel, announce the birth of their son, William David, Feb. 24, 2015. Justin is CNBC technical production supervisor at CNBC Plaza, Englewood Cliffs, N.J., and serves on the Plattsburgh Alumni Association Board of Directors. The family

resides in Pearl River, N.Y.

2006 ✓

**Eric Dickson (EDU)** and his wife, Amber, announce the birth of their daughter, Sadie Irene, May 19, 2014. She joins big brother, Adam, and big sister, Phoebe. Eric works for the U.S. Postal Service in Schenectady, N.Y.

# Ireland, Plattsburgh and the Path Home

By Matt McDonald '14

*Meg Griswold '12 found a real "home away from home" in SUNY Plattsburgh. Then she found another one.*

Often, students ask how they could possibly know how to choose the right university at only 18 years old. My answer to that? You will just know. The day I drove five hours to tour SUNY Plattsburgh's campus was cold and windy, but after my tour, I just knew.



I turned to my parents and said "Let's go pay my deposit." It was as simple as that, and that in-the-moment decision has led me to where I am now.

## Leaving a Trail

During my junior year, I decided I had to take Ralph Waldo Emerson's advice: "Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." I worked with my education and English advisors, as well as the Financial Aid Office, to make a study abroad trip possible.

"SUNY Plattsburgh still holds a significant place in my life."

Just a few months later, I found myself in Cork, Ireland, for the first semester of my senior year. There, I studied the English and Irish languages, traveled to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London and also met my fiancé.



Because of my degree and experience, I was offered a position with Teach For America in Connecticut, and although I turned the offer down, it was an amazing feeling to be offered such a position alongside Ivy League alumni.

Instead of accepting TFA's offer, I decided to transfer my NYS teaching certificate abroad after graduation. At the moment, I am

teaching 8th grade English in central New York, but in the coming year, I plan to put my teaching degree to use abroad.

## Lessons in Self-Independence and Happiness

From my travels, I've learned lessons on self-independence and happiness, cultural differences and the importance of exploring my surroundings. Because of SUNY Plattsburgh and my study-abroad experience in Ireland, I truly have been prepared for everything life has thrown at me.

I'm thankful for all the opportunities I had. Whenever I go back to visit, I feel at home.

## Faculty and Staff

### Doris Harris

Docent, Plattsburgh State Art Museum  
Jan. 22, 2015 — Plattsburgh

### Dr. Brian Howard

Adjunct faculty, Branch Campus, Queensbury  
Feb. 20, 2015 — Troy, N.Y.

### June "Jody" Keller

Retired classified staff  
Feb. 16, 2015 — Albany, N.Y.

### Howard LaPointe

Former dining and catering staff  
Jan. 28, 2015 — Plattsburgh

### Jonathan Nizel

Former staff, Burke Gallery, Plattsburgh State Art Museum  
March 2, 2015 — Plattsburgh

### Doris O'Connell

Former secretary to Dr. Edward Redcay  
March 15, 2015 — Plattsburgh

### Thomas O'Connell

Retired warehouse supervisor, buildings and grounds  
Feb. 21, 2015 — Cadyville, N.Y.

### Dr. David Robertson

Retired faculty and chair, Sport and Wellness  
Nov. 11, 2014 — Plattsburgh

### Dr. Craig Sample

Retired associate professor, foreign languages and literature  
Dec. 10, 2014 — Plattsburgh

### Maureen VanBuren

Adjunct faculty, special education  
March 22, 2015 — Gansevoort, N.Y.

### Dr. Stanton Warren

Former faculty, economics and finance  
Dec. 11, 2014 — Lewiston, N.Y.

## Alumni

1937

### Mary Ford (EDU)

April 5, 2015 — Plattsburgh

### Eileen Tacy (EDU)

Dec. 26, 2014 — Dannemora, N.Y.

Know an alum you think we should feature? Nominate a #PlattsGrad at [alumni.plattsburgh.edu/plattsgrad](http://alumni.plattsburgh.edu/plattsgrad).

# IN MEMORIAM

1941

**Mary Baroudi (EDU)**

Nov. 14, 2014 — Ocoee, Fla.

1942

**Claude LaPlant (EDU)**

Feb. 17, 2015 — Clearwater, Fla.

1943

**Eloise Frazier (EDU)**

Oct. 18, 2014 — Little Falls, N.Y.

**Anne Deyo Rabin (EDU)**

Oct. 26, 2014 — Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

1944

**Bernice Gardner (EDU)**

Nov. 28, 2014 — Watertown, N.Y.

**Ellen Yarmchuk (EDU)**

Nov. 19, 2014 — Rogersville, Tenn.

1947

**Gertrude Gilroy (EDU)**

March 15, 2015 — Dannemora, N.Y.

**Grace Kirkey (NUR)**

March 21, 2014 — Johns Island, S.C.

1949

**Helen Barton (EDU)**

Nov. 30, 2014 — Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

1950

**Jean Martzinek (EDU)**

Nov. 20, 2014 — Queensbury, N.Y.

1951

**Ellin Anderson (EDU)**

Dec. 26, 2014 — Bethel, Conn.

**Grace Harriman (EDU)**

July 23, 2014 — Lunenburg, Mass.

**Joan McDonald (EDU)**

Sept. 24, 2014 — Brooksville, N.Y.

**Dr. Frances Penalís (EDU)**

Feb. 26, 2015 — Plattsburgh

1954

**Patricia Marcotte (NUR)**

Dec. 31, 2014 — Lowville, N.Y.

1955

**Margaret Cordone (EDU)**

Feb. 1, 2015 — Lake George, N.Y.

**Katherine Henschel (EDU)**

April 30, 2015 — Marienville, Pa.

1957

**Debra Lunick (EDU)**

Sept. 24, 2014 — Boynton Beach, Fla.

1960

**Viera Brna (EDU)**

Jan. 26, 2015 — Salem, N.Y.

**Ruth Phillips (EDU)**

Feb. 12, 2015 — Webster, N.Y.

1961

**Patricia Whalen Maley (EDU)**

March 6, 2015 — Orange City, Fla.

1964

**Marie Bailey (NUR)**

Oct. 22, 2014 — Island Pond, Vt.

**Gordon Decker (EDU)**

Jan. 14, 2015 — Westport, N.Y.

**Olympia Fitzgerald (EDU)**

March 24, 2015 — Sherman, Conn.

**Michael Pombrio (EDU)**

Jan. 11, 2015 — Hopewell Junction, N.Y.

1966

**Joy Stephens (EDU)**

April 7, 2015 — Mitchellville, Md.

1967

**Ronald Renadette (EDU)**

Dec. 23, 2014 — Summerfield, Fla.

1968

**Cynthia Peacock (EDU)**

Jan. 1, 2015 — Bennington, Vt.

1969

**Charles Forster (EDU) G'78 (EDU)**

Jan. 30, 2015 — Peru, N.Y.

1970

**Robert Rougeau (PSC)**

April 19, 2015 — Lewes, Del.

1973

**John Hoder (EDU)**

June 1, 2014 — Scottsville, N.Y.

1974

**Joseph Bango (PSY)**

Nov. 28, 2014 — Gansevoort, N.Y.

1975

**Cara Hoffert (PSY)**

Nov. 26, 2014 — Madison, Wis.

1976

**Steven Goodman (ACC)**

Feb. 26, 2015 — Clarence, N.Y.

**Rita Thomson (CLG)**

April 22, 2015 — Chateaugay, N.Y.

1978

**Gary Snow (MUS)**

December 2014 — Los Angeles, Calif.

1980

**Peter Eckhardt CAS**

Jan. 8, 2015 — Indian Lake, N.Y.

**Wendy Lund (SOC/LAS)**

Jan 1, 2015 — Ballston Spa, N.Y.

1981

**Michelle Bavaro (NUR) G'15 (MALS)**

Feb. 12, 2015 — Queensbury, N.Y.

1983

**Richard Germain (ENV)**

Jan 3, 2014 — Houston, Texas

1989

**James Marion G'89 (EDU)**

Feb. 22, 2015 — Grahamsville, N.Y.

1990

**Catherine Giroux (JOU)**

Nov. 12, 2014 — Waterford, N.Y.

**Karen Rupert (EDU)**

Dec. 2, 2014 — Ogdensburg, N.Y.

1992

**Patricia Leavitt G'92 (EDU)**

Feb. 25, 2015 — Morrisonville, N.Y.

1997

**Marie Reid G'97 (EDU)**

March 10, 2015 — Hudson Falls, N.Y.

1998

**Sarah Walton Tromblee (CFS) G'03 (EDU)**

April 11, 2015 — Peru, N.Y.

2004

**Jeffrey Bull (PSY)**

April 24, 2015 — West Chazy, N.Y.



# All Wound Up

By Carla Beecher



Andy Duback

Long before the digital age, clocks were highly mechanized intricate objects that only a wealthy few could afford. The advent of the Industrial Revolution allowed what was once only for the elite to be within reach for all.

“They are very beautiful objects with a certain design challenge,” Norman Taber, associate professor and chair of the art department, said of his collection of art deco desk and alarm clocks in his Myers Fine Arts Building office.

As 19th century Chicago architect Louis Sullivan said, “Form follows function,” and clocks’ round design is based on their sole objective to tick out the minutes accurately.

“Some clocks are very ornamental, but I like the clean and simple features that industrial designer Henry Dreyfus used in his classic Big Ben alarm clock beginning in 1939,” Taber said. “My favorites are the small wind-up alarm clocks. Of course, I can’t have them all ticking at once because it would be so loud it would drive you mad.”

Before he and his art department colleague and wife, Tory, began teaching at Plattsburgh, they lived in Oklahoma. Taber laughed when he recalled one of his colleagues there saying that his collection was his “infantile attempt to stop time.”

“They do sort of stare back at you,” he added.

So what type of alarm clock sits on Taber’s bedside table?

“I have a modern Big Ben that is similar to these, but it’s battery operated, not wound.” ■



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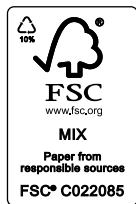
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# EOP REUNION IN THE BIG APPLE

Pamela Hewitt '74, EOP Director Kyla Relaford '02, Counselor Amy Daniels '08 and President John Ettling welcomed 70 **Educational Opportunity Program** alumni to refreshments and a short program at NYC's Club Quarters Midtown this spring.



Philip Mauro



Philip Mauro



Philip Mauro



Philip Mauro

Event sponsor Pamela Hewitt '74 with recent alumna Noemy Brito '14. Angel Acosta '08, Sherlene Ayala '05 and Charles Medina enjoyed the evening. Melissa Garcia '07, Ivonne Gomez '07, Tanya Henry '05 and Gloribel Vega '07 had some fun with the mini Burghy. Brian Gonzalez '13 and Francisco Ventura '13 enjoyed catching up. See story on page 28.

Learn more and view NYC photos at [plattsburgh.edu/alumni/eopnyc](http://plattsburgh.edu/alumni/eopnyc).

**SAVE THE DATE** Oct. 16-18, 2015 ■ CareerEdge Weekend (during Homecoming), Annual mini-conference for EOP students, workshops, mock interviews, networking.