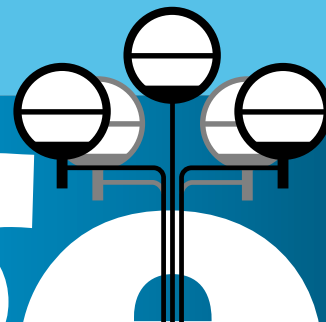


the Bridge

A Magazine for SUNYIT Alumni, Faculty, Friends & Students

Fall 2011



Commencement!

Celebrating achievement in the new Field House

Connecting
Technology,
Society, Culture



Finding Surprises
in the 'Land of
Smiles'



Opening a
New Home
for Freshmen



The Bridge is published by the State University of New York Institute of Technology at Utica/Rome to keep you informed of campus activities and news.

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On the cover:

President Yeigh congratulates Darilyn Brown '11 as Levin Institute President Garrick Utley applauds.
Photo by Lynne Browne

Commencement 2011!



Hundreds of graduates, family members and guests joined faculty and staff at the 37th annual spring commencement May 7 in the Wildcat Field House on the SUNYIT campus.

The ceremony marked a first for SUNYIT: spring commencement on campus. Since the first graduation ceremony was held in 1975, spring commencement has been held in either the Stanley Theater or the Utica Memorial Auditorium because no campus facility could accommodate the event.

With the construction of a \$20 million field house – a facility with some finishing touches still to be completed – spring commencement now has a permanent campus home. Other large-scale events are also finding a home there: the annual student athlete awards banquet on May 1 and the academic awards dinner on May 6 also gave attendees a first-hand look at the new building.

“I am pleased to welcome you to our first on-campus spring commencement ceremony,” President Yeigh told those in attendance. “This is an exciting day for our graduates and their families, and another landmark event in the life of the SUNYIT campus.”

The keynote address was delivered by former television network news correspondent Garrick Utley, now president of SUNY’s Levin Graduate Institute in New York. All candidates who became eligible for graduation from August 2010 through the end of the current academic year were invited to take part in spring commencement. The ceremony was followed by a reception for graduates and guests in the new Student Center.

In addition to the awarding of degrees, four members of the faculty and staff received Chancellor’s Awards: Lori Becker for Excellence in Classified Service, **Marybeth Lyons G’94** for Excellence in Professional Service, Louise Dean-Kelly for Excellence in Faculty Service, and Veronica Tichenor for Excellence in Teaching.

The field house, home to SUNYIT’s Wildcat intercollegiate athletics and campus intramural and recreation programs, includes a state-of-the-art fitness center, indoor running/walking track, sports training facilities, a high-tech sports medicine/training room, and team locker rooms. Also part of the construction project are a new, lighted turf field, new baseball field, and improvements to the existing softball field.





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*Engage the future.
Change the world.*



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SUNYIT

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Outreach to El Salvador



The team visited five remote villages isolated from typical conventional medical care, including Bajo Lempa, Izalco, El Maizal, and Salinas del Potrero.



SUNYIT students and faculty took part in a humanitarian trip to El Salvador in December 2010 and January 2011, an international initiative intended to provide students with a global, cultural immersion in public health experiences and service to others.

From SUNYIT, participants included eight bachelor's degree students fulfilling community nursing/public health clinical requirements; four graduate nursing students; Carolyn Christie-McAuliffe, assistant professor of nursing; Joanne Joseph, associate professor of psychology; and Esther Bankert, provost. The team visited five remote villages isolated from typical conventional medical care, including Bajo Lempa, Izalco, El Maizal, and Salinas del Potrero. Two of the villages were closed communities whose residents are Mayan descendants.

The focus was home visits and health teaching. More than 90 home visits were conducted, the first ever in the rural villages. As part of the work completed, two dozen health promoters and teachers received

training for CPR and first aid, including choking, burn prevention and treatment, insect bites, diabetes, high blood pressure, tuberculosis, and domestic violence/anti-bullying. In addition to the home visits, Joseph presented sessions on resilience to more than 40 people including translators, students, laypeople and professors; conducted 18 clinical consultations with community, church, and school leaders; and facilitated evening debriefing sessions with team members and translators. The team presented sessions on personal hygiene and oral care for more than 300 children, visited an orphanage, and left behind resource materials for health promoters and teachers who serve each of the communities visited.

A comprehensive health curriculum was developed by Christie-McAuliffe's undergraduate nursing students prior to the trip, with topics selected based on direct communication with the only doctor who practices in the region. Faculty and students are discussing future international trips focused on health and public education.





Bachelor's Program in Interdisciplinary Studies Launched

SUNYIT has launched a new degree program in interdisciplinary studies.

Through an exploration of technology, culture and society coupled with each student's own disciplinary interest and focus, the program is designed to prepare students for a variety of career goals ranging from graduate study, law school, and teacher education to working in public service or private business.

"As an institute of technology, SUNYIT is committed to examining the role that technology plays in transforming our society," said President Bjong Yeigh. "We are involved in advancing new technologies while also reflecting upon the impact these technologies have on users and the larger social and global network."

Given an ever-changing and increasingly complex technological society, an interdisciplinary perspective can reveal the connections between technology, culture, and society better than any single point of view. "The explosion of social networking, for example, cannot be understood simply in terms of computer hardware and software," said Daryl Lee, assistant professor and program coordinator. "It is as much a social and cultural phenomenon as it is a technological one."

Officials say the new program is in keeping with SUNYIT's mission and its commitment to help students understand the significance and broader implications of technology and its relation to their lives.

"Our goal is to understand technology not just as a tool," Lee said, "but as a way of thinking, acting, working, and living in the world, as something that shapes who we are and what we want to be."

For more information, e-mail admissions@sunyit.edu or call (315) 792-7500.



Foundation Invitational's Success Supports Students

With the help of more than 20 area businesses and friends, the second SUNYIT Foundation Invitational on May 23 at the Yahnundasis Golf Club raised approximately \$16,000 to support scholarships for the growing SUNYIT student population.

"The Second Annual SUNYIT Foundation Invitational was a great success," said Peter Perkins, director of development. "We're extremely grateful to the many golfers and sponsors who supported our event, and who continue to support the work of the Foundation throughout the year."

Overall tournament winners in the men's division were Fred Burrows, Mark Kotary, Frank Kotary, and Richard Wilson. The winners of the co-ed division were Anthony Panebianco, **Mike DeCicco G'07**, Mike Durr, and Heather Sponenburg. Long drive winners were Kevin Conway and Heather Sponenburg.

"It's gratifying to know that the funds we raised with the help of the community will directly benefit so many worthy SUNYIT

students," said Joe Woloszynowski, Foundation board member and tournament co-chairperson. "Special thanks to the event's key sponsors: Dr. Ted and Melva Max, Fred Burrows Trucking and Excavating, NYS Small Business Development Center, Sodexo, and Pepsi Beverages Company."

Chartered in 1974, the Institute of Technology Foundation at Utica/Rome, Inc., is a not-for-profit (c)(3) corporation, organized under New York State law and granted tax-exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service. The Foundation promotes, receives, invests and disburses private gifts to SUNY Institute of Technology at Utica/Rome. It exists solely to benefit the Institute and its students by providing financial assistance to students and enhancing the learning environment through faculty research stipends and the acquisition of much needed equipment. The Foundation also funds special activities that enhance the academic environment.



Men's Division Winners: Richard Wilson, Fred Burrows, Frank Deriso, Mark Kotary



Co-ed Division Winners: Mike Durr, **Mike DeCicco G'07**, Heather Sponenburg, Anthony Panebianco



Kevin Edick, Kevin Grimmer, Peter Spina, Bjong Wolf Yeigh



Alumni Events

Alumni Regional Meet-ups Held in Four States

From February to June 2011, SUNYIT's Alumni and Development staff members traveled for business and pleasure to Georgia, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Saratoga Springs, NY, and Poughkeepsie, NY, and, while there, reached out to alumni in those areas. These meet-ups are part of an on-going effort, initiated in winter 2010 by the Alumni Office, to significantly expand in-person alumni outreach.

As soon as a travel opportunity arises and it is determined that a travel schedule can be established to accommodate an in-person visit in that area, the Alumni Office moves as quickly as possible to make plans for a gathering location and to communicate with interested alumni. Therefore, nearly all communication about an upcoming alumni meet-up takes place via e-mail. Alumni who want to ensure they receive notice of an upcoming meet-up in their area should send their e-mail and residential mailing addresses (used for electronic zip-code sorting for e-mail invitations) to alumni@sunyit.edu and add "@sunyit.edu" e-mails to their approved e-mail list.



Saratoga "Happy Hour" Meet-up: Ten SUNYIT alumni and friends, including **Sean Daley '97** and his wife, Jennifer, gathered on June 8, 2011, at Diamond Jim's at Saratoga Casino and Raceway in Saratoga Springs, NY, to network with fellow residents of the Capital Region and receive campus updates from SUNYIT's Alumni Officer.



Boston/Cambridge Dinner Meet-up: Former SUNYIT soccer players **Laurel Hosmer '09** (left) and **Paul Spence '90** (right) joined SUNYIT's Alumni Officer on February 9, 2011, at Cambridge Brewing Company (CBC), "the oldest brewery-restaurant in the Boston area and one of the nation's first."



Raleigh-area Alumni Meet-up: The second "Brews, Beverages & Appetizers" gathering with SUNYIT's Alumni Officer at Carolina Ale House was held on March 11, 2011, and included (left to right): **Gerald 'GG' Mack '00**, **Rich Lounsbury '91**, **Chris Duda '95 G'03**, **Jennifer Corinna '95**, **Joseph 'Jay' Fylak '87**, and **Devin Hartley '97**.



Boston/Cambridge Lunch Meet-up: While the Boston Bruins Stanley Cup victory parade was taking place on June 18, 2011, **Kimberly Reynolds '90** (left) and **Matthew Crumb '11** (right) where able to get through the heavy traffic to join SUNYIT Alumni Officer Brenda Dow (center) at Christopher's in Cambridge, selected as having the best burger in Massachusetts by Food Network celebrity chef and restaurateur Bobby Flay.



Poughkeepsie-area Dinner Meet-up: SUNYIT's Alumni Association sponsored an Alumni Dinner at Coyote Grill in Poughkeepsie, NY, on March 15, 2011, that was hosted by Director of Development Peter Perkins (not shown) and Assistant Director of Development Victoria Cataldo (far right).



Alumni return for second '70s-'80s and Mills Era Reunion

Alumni VIP Event Held at Syracuse Chiefs Game

About 50 alumni and friends turned out for 'SUNYIT Alumni VIP Night' to enjoy an evening filled with fans, food, fireworks, and fun in the VIP room of Alliance Stadium, home of Syracuse Chiefs baseball. SUNYIT Alumni Officer Brenda Dow served as host for the July 9, 2011, event and provided personalized updates on campus changes.

Attendees enjoyed great food and beverages while enjoying the game from the comfort of the air-conditioned Hank Sauer Room or outdoors on the private terrace or in stadium seats. The Chiefs mascot stopped by to pose for pictures, and the evening ended with a fantastic fireworks display.

For more photos, go to www.sunyit.edu/alumni/photos and follow the link for 'SUNYIT Alumni VIP Night' at Syracuse Chiefs baseball.



Eric Stanley '95 poses inside the VIP room with the Chiefs mascot.



Attendees (left to right) **Andy Stupp '08**, **Andrew Hookway '08**, **Joe Mirabito '08**, and **Stephanie Bugenis '09** gather before dinner in the VIP room.



Guest **Donna Vielkind** with **James Vielkind '81** (left); **Leslie Piotrowski '81** and **David Piotrowski '81** (center); and **Judy Pittz '82** and **Larry Pittz '81** (right) reconnected.

The second '70s-'80s and Mills Era Reunion enabled members of the 15 classes from 1975 to 1989, and all other students and faculty from SUNYIT's old-campus days (the "Mills Era") to return to campus. Reminiscing about old times were 58 attendees who spent time on the old Utica and current Marcy campuses.

Alumni had high praise for the first '70s-'80s and Mills Era Reunion launched by the Alumni Office in 2006 as part of SUNYIT's 40th Anniversary celebration, and based on alumni feedback a second reunion was held on April 16, 2011, incorporating popular aspects of the original reunion with some new offerings.

New for this year, alumni boarded a bus for a personalized tour of their making. While each tour focused on the primary academic buildings on the old Utica campus, the bus also made detours past old apartments, stores, bars, and area hangouts upon the request of each alumnus on board. Alumni enjoyed recounting stories about campus life, classes, and faculty members in relation to the various old buildings that they pointed out to each other during their ride.

Tours traveled past the former academic buildings known as the Globe Mill Factory at 811 Court Street, Mill Square at Court & State



Among the 58 attendees and 7 event-staff members were **David Kane '85** and **Adriana (Klobas) Kane '85** (left), guest Bob Kane with SUNYIT Professor Lori Kane (seated right), and **Don Gifford '84** (standing).



Dr. Eugenio Basualdo (far right), former SUNYIT professor and spouse of the late **Suzanne Basualdo '79**, reconnected with some of his former students.

Streets, and Potter Center at Potter & Whitesboro Streets. As requested by attendees, tours also passed Utica-area hangouts such as the Pub, Kozar's, Spilka's, 11th Ward, Gladstone's, Lily Langtry's, Sunset, Bearded Dolphin and Shakers.

A central part of old-campus life was gathering at Matt's Brewery, located across from a building that housed academic and administrative operations during SUNYIT's early years. Brewery tours were offered once again, with the bus shuttling attendees between campus and Matt's Brewery, with stops on the way back to SUNYIT to view the current Marcy campus and its newest buildings.

The official festivities concluded with an Evening Mixer at SUNYIT featuring Saranac beers produced by Matt's Brewery, New York State wines, and plenty of food to enjoy with former classmates. The mixer included door-prize drawings for SUNYIT merchandise, including clothing and Presidential steins. SUNYIT Chief of Staff and Director of Public Relations and Communications **John Swann G'02**, author of *From the Mills to Marcy: The early history of the State University of New York Institute of Technology at Utica/Rome*, was on hand to sign books and answer questions about the college's history.



The Evening Mixer included door-prize drawings for SUNYIT merchandise, including clothing and Presidential steins. More photos at www.sunyit.edu/alumni/reunion/mill/photos.



Attendees at the alumni art show opening reception in June 2011 included (left to right) **Ryan Iffert '05** with guest **Alyssa, Meaghan Slottje '07** and **Jeremy Slottje '04**, **Drew Newbury '02**, artist **Andrew Hookway '08**, and artist **Kevin Bertholf '07**.



Approximately 20 percent of the spectators and participants at FragFest in April 2011 were SUNYIT alumni, including **Adam Pilbeam '07 G'08** (left) with Gamers Club Advisor **Chris Urban** (right).



Among those alumni who returned for FragFest in April 2011 was **Zack Hoffmann '08 G'09** (right), who drove all the way from Michigan.

Alumni Participate in Campus and Student Events

The Alumni Office continues to partner with student groups and campus offices to provide an Alumni Association presence for various programs. This spring the Alumni Association focused on three special events: the Gamers Club spring FragFest, the Baja SAE student club 3rd Annual SUNYIT Auto Show, and an alumni art show made possible by the Office of Campus and Corporate Events and SUNYIT's Cultural & Performing Arts Committee.

The Gamers Club FragFest, a bi-annual fund-raising LAN party for the student club, has become a SUNYIT tradition. For the April 1-3, 2011, event, approximately 20 percent of the spectators and participants were SUNYIT alumni. To welcome them back to campus, the Alumni Office hosted a table with door-prize drawings and tours of the new Student Center, where FragFest was being held for the first time.

Two alumni were among the top winners at the 3rd Annual SUNYIT Auto Show held on May 1, 2011. This fund-raising event for the Baja SAE student club, which organized the show, included an Alumni Association-sponsored award for the first time this year that was presented to **Kyle Leisner '10** (see page 12 for photo and details).

'SUNY Tech-tures: Works by SUNYIT Alumni' ran June 13 to July 29, 2011, in SUNYIT's Gannett Gallery. It showcased five alumni (see artist profiles on page 13) and their work in photography, independent film-making, and arcade-controller design.



Patricia Lavin-Kearney '80 (seated left) and **Joseph P. Kearney '81** (seated right) displayed their yellow 1957 Chevrolet at the 3rd Annual SUNYIT Auto Show in May 2011.

Opportunity Programs and Alumni Association Host Alumni Dinner

An energetic and engaged group of EOP and CSTEP graduates, other SUNYIT alumni, and Alumni Board members met for dinner and drinks at J. Ryan's Pub in downtown Syracuse, NY, on Saturday, June 25, 2011.

The Alumni Association sponsored the event, which was open to all SUNYIT alumni. Director of Special Programs Terrill Dean and Alumni Officer Brenda Dow updated guests regarding various changes on campus. The Syracuse location was chosen due to its proximity to the airport and the train and bus stations.

Dean, who oversees EOP (the Educational Opportunity Program) and CSTEP (the Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program) at SUNYIT, has worked with a number of alumni to help them complete their studies and find professionally rewarding careers. Additional information regarding Opportunity Programs is available at www.sunyit.edu/eop and www.sunyit.edu/cstep on SUNYIT's web site.

Following the dinner some of the alumni, staff members, and guests enjoyed the sites and sounds of downtown Syracuse, including the "Dream Big Comedy Show" where comedian **Anthony 'AJ' Foster '09** performed that evening (see more about Foster on page 12).



Denise Ford '11 (left), **Jeremiah Edwards '09** (center), and **Dean Williams '07** (right).



Alumni Association Advisory Board member **Jeanyhwh Desulme '11** (left) and Director of Special Programs **Terrill Dean** (right).



Director of Special Programs **Terrill Dean** (left), **Susanna Tom '11** (center), and **Racquel Williams '11** (right).



Donhu Rickerby '10 (left) and **Eduardo Encarnacion '10** (right).

Alumni Association Helps Make History in New "Pub"

Alumni from the '70s and '80s recount good times hanging out in "the pub" at the old Globe Mill Factory campus on Court Street. Alumni from the Marcy campus recall when adult beverage service ended on campus and the Campus Center 'Cats' Den became known strictly for video and television viewing with eat-in or take-out food service. This year SUNYIT's Student Center opened with a new pub and, thanks to the Alumni Association, alumni and graduation candidates made history by participating in the first-ever "pub" event held in the new facility.

On March 18, 2011, the Alumni Association hosted '50 Days' to Commencement, a special event to honor those eligible to participate in May 2011 Commencement exercises (see Commencement coverage on the inside cover). December 2010 graduates and May/August 2011 graduation candidates enjoyed celebratory drinks, complimentary appetizers, and numerous prize giveaways, while networking with each other and receiving information about alumni programs.

On May 20, 2011, alumni and their guests enjoyed complimentary appetizers and beverages, including Saranac beer and New York State wine, during the first-ever Alumni Pub Night in the Student Center. The evening's highlights included networking, door-prize giveaways, and entertainment by comedian **Anthony 'AJ' Foster '09**. (see more about Foster on page 12).



Attendees at the first-ever Alumni Pub Night in the new Student Center included (left to right): **Dave Trifaro '07**, **Jeremiah Edwards '09**, **Chris Roberts '10**, **Josh Glassberg '08**, **Andrea (Vargas) Glassberg '07**, and guest **Kathleen Smith** with **James Ward '07**.

For more photos from these events and images of the pub facilities, go to www.sunyit.edu/alumni/photos and follow the links for '50 Days' to Commencement (March 2011) and 'Alumni Pub Night' (May 2011).



Celebrating their graduation and the opening of the new campus "pub" during Alumni Association events are (left to right) **Brittney Townsend '11**, **Christine Benedetto '11**, and **Najla Hrustanovic '11** with their guest **Halie Toukatly**.



Alumni making history at Alumni Pub Night included (left to right) **Chris Abel '09**, **Dave Taylor '09**, and **Christopher Munoz '07**.



‘Land of Smiles’

A Fulbright Scholar’s four months of research in Thailand

by Kathryn Stam
Assistant Professor of Anthropology

I know it is a cliché, but Thailand keeps teaching me to “expect the unexpected.” This lesson has come to me in many different ways over the 25 years that I have been visiting the “Land of Smiles,” first as a Peace Corps volunteer and later as an anthropology student and professor.

This past winter, a four-month trip to Thailand was my first long stay there in about 10 years. I was the fortunate recipient of a Fulbright Scholar award. The Fulbright Program, sponsored by the U.S. State Department, describes itself as “the flagship international exchange scholarship program between the U.S. and 155 countries, supported by the U.S. Congress and partner governments worldwide.” It awards grants to allow scholars to learn, teach, and do research with international collaborators to address questions of shared international and global concern.

A resident of upstate New York, I was thrilled to learn that I would be spending

the cold winter months in the tropics – during what happens to be their most pleasant “winter” season. I was also excited about the prospect of bringing my 13-year-old son to learn about Thai culture. The first surprise we got was that the Thai winter was really hot. The afternoons were about 86 degrees almost every day that we were there. The only time we were truly cold was in air-conditioned meeting rooms and airports.

The second surprise for me was in the area of my research project, which was called “Preserving Northeast Thai Culture Through Collection and Digitization of Thai Memorial Books.” I was interested in collecting and understanding the perspectives of Thai people in the northeast part of their country concerning memorial books written and compiled by relatives during the few days between the death of a loved one and the funeral and subsequent cremation ceremony. As an anthropologist, I found these small books appealing because of the wealth of genealogical and socio-cultural

information they contained, including biographies, poems, letters, and photographs. The purpose of the project was to learn about the books themselves and how the cultural and historical information from these books could be preserved. Assuming that the books would be difficult to find and very valuable, I packed a scanner in case I would need to borrow and return them.

My first clue that I was completely wrong came when I told my new coworkers at Mahasarakham University (MSU) about my project, and they gave me very funny looks. “You got a grant to do THAT?” one of them asked. Next, I visited the university library and asked one of the librarians if they would like to have my collection when I was done. She laughed and said, “How about this? We will collect them for you. We usually throw those away.”

What I realized over the next few months of focusing on this topic was that the Thai people’s relationships with memorial books are more complex than I thought. Whether



Kathryn and her son Terrin participated in a community service project at a small Muslim school near Bangkok. Fulbrighters, students, and members of the community decorated the library, painted the playground, and planted a garden.

or not they keep the books depends mostly on their closeness with the deceased and has very little to do with the content of the books. For them, the value of the books is related to cultural beliefs in the importance of face-to-face communication and the ephemeral nature of books in Thai life, as well as religious beliefs and the importance of social status in the community. In addition, the memorial books usually have a photo of the deceased on the cover, and although photos of flowers or pretty scenes have become more common in recent years, many people do not want to be reminded of sad events such as deaths and funerals.

The result of this ambivalent attitude toward memorial books was that they were very easy for me to collect. People left them on my desk, sent them to me in the mail, saved them for me, gave them to me at the market, and took me to temples where monks gave them to me. When I went to other provinces to collect the books from print shops and recycling centers, I was able to pick and choose those in good condition and reject the rest. My scanner never once came out of its box.

My third surprise came from my affiliation with the Faculty of Informatics at Mahasarakham University (MSU). Officially, I was a “visiting scholar,” and I was given two offices: one for my own research and one to use in

Over 200 northeast Thai memorial books were collected as part of the Fulbright-funded study.



case I got lonely and needed friends. Needless to say, I chose to use the office with friends. My new coworkers were from the Library and Information Science Department, and they welcomed me with open arms. Not only did they include me in their field research in nearby villages, they also took me to lectures and conferences, a day of rice-harvesting, a staff sports day, numerous long lunches, and an endless stream of social events starting with New Year’s time, and continuing through the Chinese New Year. They included me in graduation, which meant wearing a tailored

suit, sharing my lofty accommodations with sixty Thai soldiers from the Royal Palace, and watching 3,000 graduates receive their diplomas personally from Crown Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. My coworkers also welcomed me by bringing iced tea and “knoms” (sweets) for me on a daily basis. On one memorable occasion, I was “kidnapped” from my room and taken to three student-sponsored parties, returning home at 2 a.m. with a paperweight, a rose, a corsage, and a polo shirt. Another time I was taken to a late-night café owned and run by transvestites and we had warm milk and steamed bread. My new friends were generous with their time, their space, their experiences, and their connections. I sometimes joke that they dragged me around a lot, but in fact I was the one who took them on a three-day research trip along the Mekong River. They came along cheerfully and participated in my research project by collecting memorial books at print shops and temples.

Big surprise number four was MSU itself; it was not what I expected at all. I had taught at MSU’s small, sleepy campus briefly in the early 1990s, but since then the university had moved to a new campus – and had grown to 40,000 students. I did not recognize the place! Everything was so new, and it had a Western frontier town feel to it. My ninth-floor luxury apartment, for example, had never been used before and the appliances still had tape on

them. There was construction everywhere, day and night, and almost everyone had come from somewhere else within the past ten years. People were very friendly and easy to talk to, and I made friends from all walks of life. By the time I left, I knew people who were students, secretaries, construction workers,



Kathryn visited print shops in ten provinces in northeast Thailand to collect samples of memorial books and interview employees about the creation process.

artists, maintenance workers, exchange students, professors from every school, deans, and other high-level administrators. We spent time chatting at the restaurants, the night market, the post office, and a folk music bar. Our faculty apartment did not have a kitchen, so all of our meals were eaten outside. This gave me a lot of opportunity to chat with people in nearby restaurants and noodle stalls. There were also convenience stores, places to do laundry, get photos developed, and buy ice cream and find Internet access. There was also a shady and hip coffee shop across the street from my office where students, faculty and an assorted international group of customers (Germans, Canadians, Irish, Americans, Filipinos, Australians, Finns) spent time enjoying excellent coffee drinks, good company, and the cool breezes of the season. I often think of the family that runs the place and the welcome feeling I got from going there.

Traveling with a 13-year-old presented some challenges, but overall it was a positive experience. My son had the opportunity to see how people live in different regions of the country. His favorite experiences were an elephant festival and mountain biking around the Southern Islands with some English-speaking girls his age; he also read a lot and learned about photography. The hardest part for him was learning how to deal with always being the center of attention and not understanding the language and cultural practices of the people around us. He is a confident traveler now, although he has no desire to travel anywhere again for a good, long time.

Overall, I feel humbled by the experience and grateful to the Fulbright Program and SUNYIT for their support and flexibility in helping me make it happen. I have begun the task of sorting through my collection of 200 memorial books and plan to publish an article about them in the coming year.



Lee Einsidler '78

jägerman

Making Things Happen for Himself and Others

What do you do when someone in a position of authority doubts your talents and capabilities? What if that person is a high school teacher who says you won't amount to anything, and you're a teenager for whom college is the only avenue for your dream job? Ask Lee Einsidler '78 and he'll tell you what he did.

One of seven children, Einsidler was a teenager growing up in Long Island in a family of modest means; his father put bread on the table running a liquor store. Working there during his teens, Einsidler got to know the sales representatives coming in, each brand of bottled beverage, and the company image behind it. So it's little surprise he would continue in the family business.

But as a teenager, Einsidler's vision was bigger than operating a small family-run store. He wanted to work for Seagram's, which was the largest distiller of alcoholic beverages in the world. However, to be considered for his dream job he'd have to earn a college degree, a feat that seemed impossible given that his high-school teacher was telling him he'd never amount to anything.

Every journey, though, begins with a single step. And Einsidler believed in his heart that he had a head for business. So, in spite of his teacher's judgment, he decided to take a few community college classes in sales and marketing, and then a few more, until he completed a full year of credits. Then, buoyed by that experience, he decided to take on a second full year of studies, leading to an associate's degree.

From there, he applied to SUNYIT, transferred into the business major, and went on to earn a bachelor's degree, and did so cum laude.

Upon graduation, Einsidler used one of his father's contacts to secure an interview at Seagram's headquarters in New York and landed a job there, thus fulfilling his teenage dream. But that's just the beginning of the story!

After seven years at Seagram's, Einsidler felt the company he grew up with was no longer the company he worked at. So in 1986 he joined another huge name in the industry, Jim Beam®. "I was approached by Jim Beam® numerous times and became their Vice President - National Sales Manager and the youngest in the liquor business at the age of 29," he said.

Five years later in 1992, Einsidler faced a personal tragedy that would change his life forever. His mother was diagnosed with cancer with a prognosis of only 30 days to live. Einsidler returned to Long Island to spend time with his mother. Given her situation and now being married with two children himself, Einsidler decided to reduce his travel and put down roots in the New York City area.

Einsidler's move back to New York was personally and professionally rewarding. His mother miraculously lived another 10 years, and he was able to spend lots of time with his parents during their final years. He joined the small, privately owned Sidney Frank Importing Co., Inc., which became like a second family, and Chairman and CEO Sidney E. Frank, who founded the business in 1972, became a mentor to Einsidler.

In 1996, after reporting directly to Frank for four years as Vice President of Promotions, Einsidler was promoted to CEO with Frank staying on as Chairman. Leading up to this point, the company had been making huge moves in the industry, capturing consumer attention and demand. After obtaining importing rights to Jägermeister in 1974, the company turned this specialty brand into a mainstream success. Einsidler's job involved continuing to build on the Jägermeister brand and its marketing efforts, while leading the sales and marketing of other imported beverages, and helping develop a totally new concept in the vodka market.

"We built a magnificent company," Einsidler said. "We built America to be the largest market for Jägermeister in the world. And in the mid '90s we had an idea and created Grey Goose vodka. About a half dozen of us were instrumental in its creation. We introduced it

in 1997, and then in summer 2004 we sold it to Bacardi because Sidney's health was not good and he wanted to leave his fortune to charity."

Einsidler said the Grey Goose sale – estimated at over \$2 billion – resulted in huge employee bonuses and millions of dollars donated by Frank, particularly to education, allowing Frank to leave an amazing legacy prior to his death in 2006. Einsidler said Frank's generosity inspired him to also become a philanthropist, donating to causes that address cancer and the often underpaid, behind-the-scenes folks in thoroughbred racing. "I've been going to Saratoga my entire life," he said. "My dad took me to the track and I really enjoyed it." Einsidler turned his passion into a business with the purchase of his first horse in 2004 and has been giving back to the thoroughbred community ever since.

"The business continues to do well," Einsidler said. "We're the largest importers of sake in America, we have over 200 employees, and we've just introduced another vodka. Our four-year non-compete expired in 2008, so we're re-entering with American Harvest, an American-made organic vodka rolling out in test markets."

Einsidler rose above his disparaging high school teacher to be embraced by SUNYIT professors he describes as "excellent teachers" and to whom he could relate. In pursuing his college degree, Einsidler said, "I was a good student. I really worked hard at it. I had one SUNYIT professor in particular who challenged me and I challenged him." That's no wonder considering the heights to which Einsidler has risen over the years.

Looking back on his college days Einsidler said, "It was fabulous for me, my time at community college and at SUNY Utica-Rome. Utica-Rome was a perfect fit." Finding a "perfect fit" seems to come naturally to Einsidler whenever he follows his heart and his head for business.

Every journey begins with a single step, including that of Lee Einsidler '78. As a teenager, he believed in his heart that he had a head for business and bucked the naysayers by facing life one step at a time. In doing so, he made his dreams come true while helping others. For more of the story, go to: www.sunyit.edu/alumni/profiles.





SUNYIT Hosts First “New York in the World” Forum

Jobs in the Mohawk Valley and across New York in a global economy were the focus of a Levin Institute town hall forum at SUNYIT March 21.

President Yeigh welcomed attendees to the event, which was moderated by Levin Institute President and former network television correspondent and anchor Garrick Utley. Panelists included Veronica Tichenor, associate professor, and SUNYIT student Stephanie Cabral. The session included a presentation of the results of an extensive research effort on the impact of the global economy on New York State including the Utica-Rome area.

The New York in the World project is led by the Levin Institute and consists of ongoing research provided by the Center for an Urban Future and public engagement events, which includes numerous town hall-style meetings across New York State. The event at SUNYIT was the first of the series.

Nursing Events Draw Hundreds to Campus

SUNYIT sponsored two events for nurses and nursing students that drew hundreds of participants to campus.

The first, a March 30 teaching day for student nurses, was entitled “Women’s Health Care Across the Life Span”. Presented by SUNYIT’s department of nursing & health systems, the program featured faculty presentations on violence and women, depression in women, prenatal care, breast cancer, and other topics. Presenters included two members of the SUNYIT nursing faculty, Louise Dean-Kelly and **Jennifer Klimek-Yingling ’95, G’97, G’01**, and Joanne Joseph, associate professor of psychology.

A symposium for nurses and nursing students, “From Academic Incivility to Horizontal Violence in Practice,” was presented April 15. It featured Martha Griffin, director of nursing education and research at Boston Medical Center, and Cynthia Clark, nursing professor at Boise State University, and was presented by Iota Delta Chapter 218 of Sigma Theta Tau International, the honor society of nursing.



Middle, High School Students Take Part in Technology Showcase

SUNYIT welcomed participants and the public to the 10th Annual Mohawk Valley Technology Education and Pre-Engineering Showcase March 10 in the Campus Center. The event included student technology displays, student technology competitions, business and industry displays, and upstate New York college admissions information.

Middle and high school students from Oneida, Madison and Herkimer Counties set up interactive technology displays, demonstrating the work they do in their school technology classes. Competitions included: KidWind Turbines, Computer Aided Drafting and Design (CADD), robotics, Junkyard Wars, CO2 car races, catapults, logo design, and digital photography. Medallions, plaques, and prizes were awarded to competition winners. Area technology companies, including 2011 prime sponsor Time Warner Cable, set up booths and interactive displays, showing students some of the innovative technology career opportunities available in the Mohawk Valley.



New Home for Freshmen: Oriskany Hall

The third campus residential complex to be constructed since the SUNYIT campus was established in Marcy in the 1980s, Oriskany Residence Hall is providing freshmen with a new suite-style living experience. Starting with the fall 2011 semester, students are living and learning in ten suites total, eight featuring a two-story living room with a spiral staircase. In addition to suite-style living, amenities will include studies, student storage, a building kitchen for shared use and laundry rooms.

More than 85,000 square feet in size, the 240-bed complex consists of a three-story main building with two smaller two-story wings; the first floor of the entire building is ADA compliant. Wireless access and a significant number of hardwired Internet connections enable studying and gaming.

Oriskany Residence Hall’s public spaces include classrooms for student use during the academic year as well as summer conferences. The classrooms are expandable with movable partitions connecting to a lounge, creating a single large space that spills out onto a patio/courtyard with a glass canopy.

The building’s design focuses on energy conservation and environmental friendliness. The lobby features a display monitor of the building management system allowing students to see how much energy each suite uses, intended to encourage energy conservation and friendly competition among Oriskany Residence Hall residents.



SUNYIT is now home to a student chapter of the American Institute of Graphic Arts. Russell Kahn, associate professor and coordinator of the communication & information design program, is faculty advisor; Jenn Nicholson is student chapter president.

Founded in 1914 as the American Institute of Graphic Arts, AIGA remains the oldest and largest professional membership organization for design. Kahn says there are currently ten SUNYIT student members of the new chapter, which is holding events and planning future activities with chapters at Pratt and Mohawk Valley Community College.

For more information, upstatenewyork.aiga.org.

Class Notes

Robert F. Manfredro '81 (left) and **Michael J. Buttimer '85** (right) have new positions with Utica Mutual Insurance Company, the Utica National Insurance Group's principal member company, located in New Hartford, NY. Buttimer, Manager, Claims Systems Administration, has been named an Assistant Vice President. Manfredro, Senior Underwriting Officer, has been promoted to Senior Vice President.



James Silva '05 G'07, shown here at the 2009 SUNYIT event for his first major game release, "The Dishwasher: Dead Samurai," is back in the news with his second major release for Xbox, "The Dishwasher: Vampire Smile," which received rave reviews. The indie game developer first garnered national attention after winning Microsoft's Dream-Build-Play XNA competition. Read more about Silva and reviews of his latest game, which are part of the new Alumni Association online profile section, at www.sunyit.edu/alumni/profiles.



Peter Mozloom '88 G'98 has been named to the new position of Vice President of Cyber Solutions at Modus Operandi (www.modusoperandi.com), a leading software and information integration technology company. In this role, he will create, lead and manage the company's new initiative in the area of cyberspace operations, drawing on more than 20 years of experience in the areas of military information assurance, emerging technologies, virtualization, and certification and accreditation of classified systems. For more details, access the company press release link at www.sunyit.edu/alumni/notes/1107.



Anthony 'AJ' Foster '09, an up-and-coming comedian who has appeared on MTV®, performed at SUNYIT on May 20, 2011, during the Alumni Association's first-ever alumni-and-guest Student Center pub event and was featured in a comedy showcase in Syracuse, NY, on June 25, 2011, that was preceded by a SUNYIT EOP/CSTEP & Alumni Reception (event photos on page 7). For more information about Foster, view his Alumni Association profile at: www.sunyit.edu/alumni/ajfoster.



Kyle Leisner '10 (right), with his father, was presented with the "Alumni Favorite" award at the 3rd Annual SUNYIT Auto Show on May 1, 2011. The show is a fund-raising event for the Baja SAE® student club, and the "Alumni Favorite" award went to the alumni entry that received the most votes overall as weighted within its respective category. Additional photos are posted at www.sunyit.edu/alumni/photos.



Alumni eNews Class Notes

Updates regarding the following alumni were received by July 2011 and posted online in August 2011 at www.sunyit.edu/alumni/notes/1107.

Submitting to Class Notes: Alumni should submit updates and press releases via e-mail to alumni@sunyit.edu and be sure to include (1) their full name at the time they were enrolled and (2) the years they attended SUNYIT, or simply submit information via the online form posted at www.sunyit.edu/alumni.the_bridge for future editions.

"G" denotes graduate degree

1970s

Douglas D. Garrison '77
Business/Public Management

Lee Einsidler '78
Business/Public Management

Alan Kempf '78
Business/Public Management

Daniel McCoy '79 '89
Criminal Justice
Mechanical Engineering Technology

1980s

Patricia Lavin-Kearney '80
Nursing

Elizabeth 'Betsy' Briggs '81
Human Services

Joseph P. Kearney '81
Vocational-Technical Education - Trade

Robert F. Manfredro '81
Business/Public Management

Gregory Trosset '82
Health Services Management

Mary (Bringman) Meyers '84
Business/Public Management

Allen J. Styno '84
Business/Public Management

Michael J. Buttimer '85
Business/Public Management

Thomas Lombardo '85
Electrical Engineering Technology

Thomas Kwasniewski '88
Computer/Information Science

Peter Mozloom '88 G'98
Computer/Information Science
MS Computer/Information Science

Kenny Rosenthal '88
Telecommunications

Randall J. Brown '89
Computer/Information Science

1990s

Eric D. Wiars '90
Business/Public Management

Scott Gorgas '91 G'02
Accounting, Finance, MS Accountancy

Charles 'Chuck' Green '93

Computer Science

Fred 'Fritz' Scherz Jr. '95 G'98

Business/Public Management
MS Business Management

Mark Mowers '96

Computer Information Systems

Mark Hanna '97

Business/Public Management

Rebecca (Fuller) Hensel '98

Health Services Management

David Lederhouse '98

Telecommunications

Peter Mozloom '88 G'98

Computer/Information Science
MS Computer/Information Science

Eric Redner '99

Business/Public Management, Finance

Pat Zawko '99 G'00

Nursing, MS Nursing Administration

2000s

Pat Zawko '99 G'00

Nursing, MS Nursing Administration

Tipton 'Tippy' Abrahams '01

Professional & Technical Communication
(Deceased)

Scott Gorgas '91 G'02

Accounting, Finance
MS Accountancy

Antonius Rivera '02 G'05

Business/Public Management
MBA Technology Management

Markee Jones '03

Business/Public Management

Sarah (Reynolds) Newcomb '03

Health Services Management

Lynne Browne '04

Professional & Technical Communication

Kenneth Kicak '04

Computer/Information Science

James Silva '05 G'07

Computer/Information Science
MS Computer/Information Science

Cheryl Aupperle G'07

MS Information Design & Technology

Kevin Bertholf '07

Computer Information Systems

Thomas 'TR' Remsen '07

Professional & Technical Communication

Andrew Hookway '08

Professional & Technical Communication

Mervin McDougall '08

Computer Information Systems

Ben Fong '09

Business/Public Management

Anthony 'AJ' Foster '09

Computer Information Systems

Amanda (Briggs) Love '09

Psychology

Daniel Love '09

Electrical Engineering

Kelly Jendrzewski '10

Business Administration

Kyle Leisner '10

Business Administration

Talent on display at Alumni Art Show

"SUNY Tech-tures: Works by SUNYIT Alumni," on display June 13 to July 29, 2011, in SUNYIT's Gannett Gallery, showcased the work of **Lynne Browne '04** (photography), **Kevin Bertholf '07** (photography), **Andrew Hookway '08** (independent film-making), **Mervin McDougall '08** (photography), and **Ben Fong '09** (arcade controllers). In addition to the images below, view the featured artists' bios and other show photos by accessing the link posted to www.sunyit.edu/alumni/profiles.

This event was made possible by SUNYIT's Office of Campus and Corporate Events and SUNYIT's Cultural & Performing Arts Committee, with assistance provided by SUNYIT's Alumni Office, with special thanks to **Jessica Rowe '08** for suggesting the show.



Kevin Bertholf '07, who works in the field of information technology in Dutchess County, NY, has been experimenting with photography for three years now, and maintains a photo journal online at www.shifftthescene.com.



Andrew Hookway '08, an independent short-film producer and gaming retail manager, formalized his film-making hobby in 2005 when he co-founded Key Pixel Gathering of Film Makers, a group that has produced numerous films, including one currently touring film festivals around the continent.



Mervin McDougall '08, a web developer for a Central New York business, has won awards for his photography at Syracuse-area shows and clubs. His work primarily focuses on what he describes as "fine art nature photography," with significant portions of his portfolio available for viewing online at www.mervinmcdougall.com.



Lynne Browne '04 is a prolific photographer, shooting for personal enjoyment and commercial applications. For the past 10 years, she has served as SUNYIT's Web Coordinator, responsible for designing and maintaining content on the official SUNYIT website.

Alumni Benefits: Don't Miss Out!

SUNYIT alumni benefits include invitations to alumni events, alumni communications such as the Alumni eNews, access to the official SUNYIT Alumni Association group on LinkedIn® with job postings, and free access to the CCN® online job-board and resume-database system (see www.sunyit.edu/alumni/member_benefits). Don't miss event invitations, Class Notes, campus updates, and other information distributed electronically by SUNYIT's Alumni Office throughout the year. Send your e-mail address to alumni@sunyit.edu or visit the Alumni Association page on Facebook® at www.facebook.com/sunyitalumni and select "Like."



Athletics

2010-11 in Review: Wildcats Number One Again

For a second straight year, the SUNYIT athletics department won the prestigious North Eastern Athletic Conference President's Cup, awarded to the top overall athletics program in the 13-team conference. The Wildcats also took home first place in the men's standings for the third consecutive year, while finishing in fifth place on the women's side.

"This has been a remarkable year of achievement for our Wildcat sports program in the NEAC," said athletics director Kevin Grimmer. "Our men's teams continue to be the conference leaders and we're proud of our championships and various individual achievements."

The Wildcats have made a name for themselves in the NEAC since joining the conference three years ago, finishing second overall in 2008-09 before taking the top spot the past two seasons. The men's programs won two conference championships this year, while boasting four player-of-the-year winners and three coach-of-the-year winners.

Men's soccer and men's cross country set the pace for the men's programs in the fall by each winning a NEAC championship for the first time in their programs' history. Men's soccer won its first-ever NEAC regular season championship with an 8-1 conference record while finishing a program-best 13-6-1 overall that helped eighth-year head coach Peterson Jerome win the NEAC Coach of the Year award.



The squad also placed seven players on the NEAC All-Conference Team and swept the individual conference awards, with freshman Diego Montaleza (New York, NY/MLK) named the NEAC Player of the Year after scoring a team-best 20 points on six goals and a program single-season record eight assists, while classmate Malick Faye (Bronx, NY/MLK) won the NEAC Goalkeeper of the Year award after registering program single-season records of seven shutouts and a 0.83 goals against average in addition to 56 saves and a 12-6-1 record in 19 starts.

Faye was also named the NEAC tournament's Most Valuable Player after recording six saves and allowing one goal in two playoff contests while also coming up with two huge stops during the shootout of the thrilling championship game, which SUNYIT won 4-3 after the game finished tied at 1-1 through regulation and two overtimes. Montaleza and Faye were both selected to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA)/Performance Subaru Men's NCAA Division III All-East Region Third Team.

Men's cross country also had a phenomenal year, capturing the NEAC title after having four of the top five individual finishers at the championship race, while all five of the team's runners at the championship were selected to the All-Conference Team. Head coach Bill Tylutki was also crowned the NEAC Coach of the Year after leading the team to top-five finishes in five out of the nine competitions that his team competed in during the season.

Baseball also produced two major conference awards, as head coach Kevin Edick was voted the Coach of the Year for the second time in the past three seasons, while junior Patrick Baker (Ronkonkoma, NY/Connetquot) was crowned the Pitcher of the Year in addition to joining six teammates on the All-Conference Team. Edick, the program's only coach during its 19-year history, earned his 200th career victory during the season and led the Wildcats to a share of the NEAC West regular season championship with a 12-2 conference record, while guiding them to a program-best overall record of 22-14. Baker had a historical season, breaking the program records for career wins and career strikeouts while leading the team in starts (9), wins (6), innings pitched (50.2) and strikeouts (43) on the year.



Men's basketball also had a strong season after entering the year ranked No. 19 in the D3Hoops.com preseason rankings, going 14-11 overall and making an appearance in the NEAC Tournament semifinals. Senior David Golembiowski (Barneveld, NY/Holland Patent) capped off an incredible four-year career with a sensational final season in a Wildcat uniform, winning his third straight NEAC Player of the Year award and being selected to his third consecutive All-Conference Team along with classmate Calvin Logins (Lyons, NY/Keuka College).

Golembiowski, who led the team in points, rebounds, blocks and 3-pointers made, was also selected for five national awards after being named the D3Hoops.com All-East Region Player of the Year and an Eastern College Athletic Conference Division III All-Star in addition to being selected to the D3Hoops.com All-America Second Team and the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) All-District East Region First Team. A four-year starter and the first Wildcat to ever score 2,000 career points, Golembiowski was also one of 20 players chosen to participate in the NABC Reese's Division III College All-Star Game. As a member of the East Team, Golembiowski finished with team-highs of 14 points, 12 rebounds and two blocks in the contest, which was held prior to the NCAA Division III men's basketball championship game at the Salem Civic Center in Salem, Va.



Men's golf and men's swimming also had strong seasons to help SUNYIT solidify themselves as the top men's program in the conference. Golf had four top-five finishes on the year and took home sixth place at the conference championship, while swimming went 4-2 overall and 3-1 in conference action with five top-five finishes in the regular season and a third-place finish in the conference championship.

Although men's volleyball is not sponsored by the NEAC, the fourth-year program was on par with the success of the other Wildcat men's sports with a smooth transition from the North East Collegiate Volleyball Association (NECVA) to the newly formed United Volleyball Conference (UVC) this season. The team tied its program record for wins in a season with nine and graduated its first class of four-year players in seniors Jonathan Brochu (Latham, NY/Shaker) and Kevin Nelson (Oneida, NY/Oneida).

The Lady Wildcat women's sports had an outstanding year collectively. The women's soccer team set the bar in the fall with a program-best overall record of 15-3 and its first-ever NEAC regular season championship after an undefeated 11-0 conference record, helping second-year head coach Tyler Renaud win the NEAC Coach of the Year award and senior Samantha Reddington (Poland, NY/Poland) win Player of the Year honors. Reddington, a team captain and one of six Lady Wildcats selected to the All-Conference Team, led a defense that recorded the most shutouts and fewest goals allowed in program history.

The women's soccer team also had two players who won awards outside of the conference. Junior Nicole DiNitto (Oriskany,

NY/Oriskany) was selected to the NSCAA/Performance Subaru NCAA Division III Women's All-East Region Third Team after breaking the program records for most points (41) and goals (17) in a season, while senior Darilyn Brown (Middletown, NY/Middletown) received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence

Women's volleyball tied its program record for wins in a season after finishing the year 21-11 overall while placing four student-athletes on the All-Conference Team. One such selection was senior Juleah Vedder (Dolgeville, NY/Dolgeville), who broke her own program records for both kills and digs in season while winning four NEAC Student-Athlete of the Week awards en route to her third straight All-Conference First Team selection.

Women's cross country put together three top-five finishes on the year while posting a ninth-place finish at the conference championships. Senior Susanna Tom (Brooklyn, NY/James Madison) was the team's MVP and was named the team's Most Outstanding Player for both her strong running and fundraising efforts for the Japan Relief Fund. Her accomplishments also earned her the SUNYIT President's Award.

The women's winter sports saw success as well. Women's bowling, which is not sponsored by the NEAC, had its greatest season ever, winning its first two invitational events in program history and earning its first-ever national ranking, finishing the year ranked 25th out of 90 teams in the Collegebowling.com's online ranking system. Competing against multiple NCAA Division I schools on the year, the team had top-five finishes in five out of the eight invitational events it competed in and finished with a program-best record of 23-20 overall.

Women's basketball also had a great year, finishing with a program-best record of 19-8 overall and making an appearance in the NEAC tournament semifinals. The squad had two student-athletes on the All-Conference Team, with sophomore Lyndsey Brognano (Rome, NY/Rome Free Academy) making the First Team after leading the Wildcats in points, steals, 3-pointers made, field goal percentage and 3-point percentage,

while senior Tamara Williams (Rome, NY/Rome Free Academy) earned her third straight appearance with a Third Team selection after leading the team in both rebounds and blocks. A team captain during all four seasons on the team, Williams finished her career as the program's all-time leader in career rebounds, while being second all-time in career blocks and

third all-time in points after being just the third Lady Wildcat to ever score over 1,000 career points.

Women's swimming rounded out the winter sports with a sixth-place finish at the conference championships. Out of the pool, junior Katie Schlegel (Baldwinsville, NY/Morrisville State), the team's Most Outstanding Player, organized a Christmas event for the entire swim team to spend a day at the Pathfinder Village, which is a community dedicated to children and adults who have down syndrome.



Softball had a spectacular season during the spring, shattering the program records for batting average and home runs in season while also breaking the single-game program records for hits, RBI and runs scored and finishing the year ranked in the top 10 nationally in batting average, slugging percentage, scoring and doubles per game. Those accomplishments helped the squad place seven student-athletes on the All-Conference Team and make its second straight appearance in the NEAC championship contest while finishing with an overall record of 19-12.

SUNYIT athletics will now enter an exciting new era in 2011-12 with the opening of its new field house and turf field, along with the addition of men's and women's lacrosse to its intercollegiate sports programs.

"The exciting addition of lacrosse into NEAC play will be our newest challenge, but with the opening of our amazing new field house and artificial turf field, lacrosse should have competitive results as new recruits value the immediate opportunity to participate at SUNYIT," stated Grimmer.



Two Students Receive SUNY Chancellor's Scholar-Athlete Award

Freshman Kaitlyn Harrington (Central Square, NY/Paul V. Moore) was honored with the 2010-11 SUNY Chancellor's Scholar-Athlete Award in May. The award recognizes academic excellence and outstanding athletic achievement at the Division I, Division III, and NJCAA levels.

Harrington and junior softball player Amanda Pratt (Rochester, NY/Rush-Henrietta), were among 74 student-athletes chosen for the award, with each scholar-athlete being selected by SUNY System Administration in consultation with the campus athletic directors at each level of play. In honor of the accomplishment, each award recipient received a congratulatory letter and a plaque from SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher.

Harrington, a civil engineering major, was honored for her excellence both in the classroom and on the volleyball court, as she was selected to the NEAC All-Conference North Division First Team after leading the squad with 58 serve aces while being second in both kills (302) and digs (350). The 5-foot-11 outside hitter guided the Lady Wildcats to a 21-11 overall record and an appearance in the NEAC Tournament semifinals.

"This year's 74 SUNY scholar-athletes have accomplished a great feat, excelling in our classrooms as well as our athletic programs," Chancellor Zimpher said. "With an average GPA of 3.64 and a number of championship competitions among them, the achievements of our scholar-athletes are cause for cheer. Congratulations to all of this year's winners."



Kaitlyn Harrington



Katie Freisatz

Seniors Katie Freisatz (Schenectady, NY/Mohonasen) and Kevin Nelson (Oneida, NY/Oneida) and junior Amanda Pratt (Rochester, NY/Rush-Henrietta) were named to the 2010-11 Capital One Academic All-District Team. The selections are made by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) in recognition of the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performance on the field and in the classroom.

Freisatz, this year's Wildcat Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year, was named to the All-District Women's At-Large College Division Second Team after an outstanding season with the women's bowling team. Freisatz posted a 180.9 average through 58 games played and had one first-place finish, four top-five finishes and seven top-10 finishes to end the season ranked 63rd nationally in Collegebowling.com's Top 100. Her individual first-place finish came during all events competition at the MVCC Hawk Invitational, where she also helped lead the Lady Wildcats to a first-place team finish for the program's first-ever tournament victory. She also led SUNYIT to another first-place finish on the season that ultimately helped the team earn its first-ever national ranking, as the squad finished the year ranked 25th out of 90 schools ranked by Collegebowling.com.

Nelson was selected to the All-District Men's At-Large College Division First Team for the second straight year after also earning his second straight selection to North East Collegiate Volleyball Association All-Academic Team and winning his third consecutive Wildcat Scholar-Athlete of the Year award. A four-year member of the men's volleyball and soccer teams, Nelson earned the at-large bid for volleyball after posting a team-best .253 attack percentage to go along with 30 kills, 23 digs, four blocks and three serve aces in 24 matches played this past season. The 6-foot



Kevin Nelson

Three Wildcats Named to All-District Team

outside hitter has been with the program since its inception in 2008 and finished his career second in program history in both career games and matches played. The team finished 9-16 overall and 2-6 in conference play during its first year as a member of the newly-formed United Volleyball Conference.



Amanda Pratt

Pratt was named to the All-District Softball College Division First Team and the NEAC All-Conference First Team. The Lady Wildcats finished 19-12 overall, and the season ended with the squad's second straight appearance in the championship series of the double-elimination NEAC Tournament. The 5-foot-5 outfielder had another tremendous season for the Lady Wildcats, batting .444 on the year with 40 hits, 29 RBI, 24 runs scored, 11 doubles, two home runs and a team-best three sacrifice flies while registering a .633 slugging percentage and a .485 on base percentage. Pratt, who posted a 13-game hitting streak during the season, continued her climb through the softball program record books, as she is currently second all-time in career RBI, hits and doubles while being third all-time in career runs scored. A criminal justice major who is also a member of the women's bowling team, Pratt was also awarded the 2010-11 SUNY Chancellor's Scholar-Athlete Award for softball.

The All-District teams are divided into eight geographic districts across the U.S. and Canada. The University Division team includes NCAA Division I participants, while the College Division team combines NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III, NAIA, Canadian and two-year schools. Student-athletes that are selected to the All-District First Team advance to the ballot for CoSIDA Academic All-America honors.

Alumni Association Honors Kevin Grimmer

SUNYIT alumni, friends, and supporters were invited to join Alumni Association representatives at a special reception on February 12, 2011, for networking, updates, and the presentation of SUNYIT's Honorary Alumnus Award to Kevin Grimmer, Director of Athletics and Head Basketball Coach. A number of former SUNYIT athletes attended the reception that was held following the Athletic Department's annual Alumni Basketball Game.

The Honorary Alumnus Award recognizes a non-alumnus of SUNYIT who has made outstanding contributions to benefit the Alumni Association and its members. Grimmer has benefited alumni in three ways: enhancing outreach to Wildcat alumni through alumni games and special events, holding numerous athletics positions at SUNYIT over the past 26 years that have touched the lives of thousands of students, and creating an athletics program in which all SUNYIT alumni can take pride.

Former Wildcat soccer player **Scott Gorgas '91 G'02** spoke on behalf of SUNYIT's Alumni Association Advisory Board during the presentation of the Honorary Alumnus Award to Grimmer. For more event photos and Grimmer's bio, go to www.sunyit.edu/alumni/photos and follow the link for Alumni Association's Athletics Reception.



Among those reconnecting at the Alumni Association's Athletics Reception were **Anessa Lourensz-Daniels '94**, **Kermit Dingle '95** (second from left), Director of Athletics and Head Basketball Coach **Kevin Grimmer** (center left), **Darnell Hickman '99** (center right), **Thierry Conty '95**, and **Larry Jackson '96** (far right).



Congratulating Kevin Grimmer (center) on his Honorary Alumnus Award were John **'Chris' Harding '84** (left) and **Joe Barker '85** (right)



Alumni Board member and former Wildcat soccer player **Scott Gorgas '91 G'02** (right) jokingly stands on a chair "to see eye to eye" with Director of Athletics and Head Basketball Coach **Kevin Grimmer** (left).

For up-to-date sports schedules and other stories find the Wildcats online:

www.wildcats.sunyit.edu

SUNYIT Alumni ... Grow With Us! Yesterday. Today. Tomorrow. Always.

Past – While at SUNYIT, you grew in knowledge and experience.

Present – Today you can grow your professional and personal life through involvement with SUNYIT in various ways, such as:

- Attending alumni or campus events for networking or knowledge. www.sunyit.edu/alumni/upcomingevents
- Serving in a volunteer capacity (advisory board, speaker, admissions support, etc.) to make connections or build your résumé (go to www.sunyit.edu/alumni/volunteering for details).
- Sponsoring a fieldwork or internship position.
- Accessing the free online career library and job-posting database.

- Utilizing the professional and social networking media supported by the Alumni Office.
- Giving to support scholarships or other Foundation activities such as room-naming opportunities to advance your legacy or honor others.
- Remaining in contact with the Alumni Office to ensure you receive timely communications about campus advancements and opportunities that may apply to your needs and interests.
- "Going green" with SUNYIT by providing your e-mail address to the Alumni Office to ensure you receive timely, cost-efficient, and earth-friendly electronic communications about campus advancements and opportunities that may be applicable to your needs and interests.

Future – Your SUNYIT credentials remain with you forever, meaning investments from the past and present will grow to become future dividends, with SUNYIT's success reflecting positively on the college's reputation and ultimately the value of your SUNYIT degree.

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To join the Alumni Association group on LinkedIn, go to www.sunyit.edu/alumni/group and select "Alumni Association group on LinkedIn." To join Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/sunyitalumni and select "Like."

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**Thank you to the classes
of 2001, 2003, 2006,
2007, 2008 & 2010!**

Your combined class gifts allowed the SUNYIT Foundation to fund a mascot statue of the SUNYIT Wildcat. The bronze statue, designed by Young Fine Arts Studio, will serve to promote school spirit and foster new traditions on the campus for students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

To make a gift in honor of your graduating class go to www.sunyit.edu/foundation or contact the Foundation at (315) 792-7273.



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