SUNY Research Conference Comes to Oneonta

Also in this issue ...
Introducing President Morris
A New Living Arrangement Builds Bonds
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My educational path is a narrative of the transformative nature of education and the importance of both access and value. I believe my journey mirrors that of so many of our students.

My family is from rural Kentucky and rural Texas. My grandfathers went to San Diego after the Depression and before World War II to find work in the shipbuilding industry. They later brought their families west because they found work. They were very supportive of education, but they didn’t even finish elementary school.

I grew up in a working-class family. My dad was in the Army Reserve and the National Guard and worked for the telephone company climbing poles — something I was proud of as a kid. I was the envy of my classmates because of his climbing abilities.

My mom went to college later in life, and I was a co-generational student since my mom, sister, and I descended on college about the same time. I commuted, worked fulltime, and was also married. I graduated in four years and studied political science, economics, and women’s studies. I wished I could major in more areas because I loved the course catalog. My majors arose from a longtime desire to be secretary of state, which evolved from wanting to be a spy, a likely result of reading the Nancy Drew series and watching Get Smart and James Bond movies.

After my undergraduate education, I went straight to graduate school. I completed my master’s in political science in a year and earned my California teaching credentials. After taking a few more graduate courses, I decided to stay home with my three children. After nearly a 10-year hiatus from school and work, I became a single mom looking for a way to provide for my family. So I went back to school and finished my doctorate. My computer was in my kitchen, and much of my dissertation was written while attending my kids’ sporting matches.

I convey this to impress upon you that I have a passion for learning, and I am invigorated and feel blessed to work in an environment whose purpose is to educate both the hearts and minds of students. I have a great sense of optimism in the face of challenges. Perseverance and pragmatism color both my success as a student and my career as it has progressed from faculty to administration.

In terms of my personal research, I have had a number of tracks over the years, including interest groups, organizational theory, gender politics, and Native American studies. My last project focused on the interface of tribal governments with state and local governments. My interest in this area stems not only from my own professional expertise, but also in understanding more about my own past and identity: I am Cherokee and Comanche.

My grandparents, like many of their generation, felt it best to erase their native heritage to become more like the rest, which meant more white. As a child, I was dissuaded from ever asking questions about their past or about my ancestors. I would get bits and pieces over the years, such as my great-grandmother was on the Trail of Tears, the Native American relocation resulting from the Indian Removal Act of 1830, but that was about it. I did test my grandmother’s patience by wearing an Indian Power patch on my jeans in the early ’70s. When the opportunity arose to collaborate with LaDonna Harris, a tireless activist for the Indian community, I jumped on board. Fifteen years later, our collaborative project Re-Creating the Circle: The Renewal of American Indian Self-Determination, was published in 2011. This summer, I was excited to retrace my roots on the Bell Route of the Trail of Tears.

I have spent my career at institutions like SUNY Oneonta. The University of Redlands is a comprehensive liberal arts university that similarly values a personalized, student-centered liberal arts education and has a long culture of service learning. They, too, were recognized as a leading institution for community engagement by the Carnegie Foundation. As a faculty member, I was elected to serve as caucus representative by both the faculty of color caucus and women’s caucus for both our personnel policies committee and faculty review committee. Before moving to the dean’s office in 2005, I served as chair of the government department.

In 2011, since my children were grown, graduating from college, and leaving the nest, I decided to challenge myself and assumed the provost position at Fort Lewis College.

Fort Lewis is a public liberal arts college and a non-tribal American Indian serving institution. Thirty-four percent of the student body is Native American, and nearly 15 percent is Hispanic.

(Continue reading page 16.)
Every other weekend, I went home to work Friday night and eight hours each on Saturday and Sunday. This kept me on the payroll.

The other factor was a friend from high school and community college, Ray Olszewski ’93, also chose Oneonta, and we roomed together off campus since we were both transfers.

**What was your major?**

I transferred in as a business major but changed to political science before my first semester started.

**How did your experience here influence the field you chose?**

As a political science major, I was exposed to the law. Furthermore, I was able to do two internships — one in Oneonta and one in Albany. While they were legislative internships, they exposed me to the law and lawyers. I went to Albany Law School right from Oneonta, and the learning environment here gave me a good foundation.

**What do you intend to accomplish as president?**

One of the immediate things is to continue the implementation of the association’s strategic plan. Our mission remains to connect, engage, support, and celebrate the graduates of SUNY Oneonta and to cultivate Red Dragon pride. For the next three years, we’re going to boost our affinity groups, build our culture of volunteerism and our dynamic awards programs, foster more networking between students and alumni, and enhance our campus traditions. For more information visit oneontaalumni.com/file/strategic-plan-2018-2021.pdf.

**Why should alumni volunteer their time to the Alumni Association?**

It’s always good to give back when you are able to do so — and I think any alumnus or alumna who volunteers with the College will find it a rewarding experience. During my five years of volunteering, everyone has been great to work with, and there’s always enough to do for everyone.

Our volunteers are the heart of the Alumni Association, and that was made even more clear to me during Reunion Weekend in June, where alumni donated their time to make sure everyone had a good time.

Thank you to all of those who gave us the gift of their time. If you’d like to give time as well, please head to oneontaalumni.com/volunteer.

Thank you, too, to all of the alumni who gave to the Fund for Oneonta. Without those contributions, we would not be able to maintain all of our programs on campus and outside of Oneonta.
Alumni Return to Campus to Share Experiences

Gifts to the Fund for Oneonta support these career-oriented programs such as the annual Scholars Day in April. Alumni of Distinction honoree Don Berchoff ’84 and Ed Drantch ’08 spoke to students who had been admitted to SUNY Oneonta.

Berchoff started his career in the U.S. Air Force. He served as Air Force One weather officer for President George H.W. Bush and led several large weather operations centers focused on providing mission-critical weather services to Air Force and Army operations. He also served four years in the U.S. Government Senior Executive Service as the director for science and technology at the National Weather Service. Berchoff is now the CEO of TruWeather Solutions in Albany.

Drantch is an anchor/reporter for Buffalo 7 (WKBW-TV) in Buffalo and is a regional Emmy nominee. The New York State Associated Press also recognized him for outstanding work. In 2013, Drantch was awarded a special mention for Excellence in Individual Reporting.

Both spoke about their journeys into their chosen careers and how SUNY Oneonta helped them along their paths.

Alumni of Distinction honoree Jeffrey Barnett ’79, associate dean for social sciences and graduate programs and a psychology professor at Loyola University, visited SUNY Oneonta on April 3. Barnett gave a guest lecture in James Zians’ positive psychology class, sharing how an inquisitive spirit and a positive outlook led him to SUNY Oneonta and the study of psychology.

Afterward, Barnett was the keynote speaker at the Division of Athletics’ D-III Celebration. He spoke with student-athletes before the event, noting that from training to competition to the
classroom, “everything takes positive action and practice.” This echoed his theme throughout all of the day’s presentations, which is to embrace the positive; have an open mind; and be willing to try new things outside of your comfort zone because life will take you places you haven’t dreamed of yet.

Marion Groetch ’84 is a registered dietitian with a master's degree in clinical nutrition and over 25 years of nutrition care experience. As the director of nutrition services at the Jaffe Food Allergy Institute at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, in New York City, Groetch is involved in food allergy research, educational programming, and the care of patients with food allergy and is frequently an invited lecturer at national and international allergy and nutrition conferences. She returned to speak with students in the dietetics and nutrition program on April 19.

Alumni of Distinction honoree Michael Brophy ’73 was the keynote speaker for SUNY Oneonta’s Political Science Conference on April 6. While on campus, Brophy, who spent 

Honk!, a musical interpretation of The Ugly Duckling, was produced by SUNY Oneonta’s theatre department and the Mask and Hammer Theatre Club with partial funding from the Student Association.
more than 35 years as a trial attorney, saw student presentations from political science-focused groups on campus and spoke to students in Tim Welch’s public relations class. His keynote address touched on his time as a student at SUNY Oneonta during the late 1960s, an era when young Americans felt empowered and inspired to confront the world’s political systems.

Rory Parness ‘86, the chief financial officer of Foursquare Labs and a volunteer mentor for WOMEN Unlimited, a nonprofit devoted to developing high-potential women into outstanding leaders, presented a Distinguished Alumni Lecture on April 18. In it, he outlined 15 tips for students who plan to pursue careers in business. Some of his points included: Relationships matter; important decisions about your career happen when you are not in the room; failure is good; and you can only learn so much sitting at your desk. He closed his lecture with a quote from the “Mother of Modern Management,” Mary Parker Follett: “The most essential work of the leader is to create more leaders.”

Bill Lapenta ‘83 is the director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Centers for Environmental Prediction, which deliver national and global weather, water, and climate guidance, forecasts, warnings, and analyses to help save lives and protect property. Lapenta manages nine centers across the country. While on campus on April 9, he spoke to meteorology and earth and atmospheric sciences students about enabling a weather-ready nation.

Two alumni returned as part of the Recent Alumni Dialogue program. Dustin Andrus ‘07 ‘11G, the Southern Tier director and vice president of NYSCATE, an organization...
of technology-using educators, spoke with Julia Iannello’s class Integrating Technology into the Curriculum: Elementary School. Lupe Colangelo ’16, a health and fitness coach in New York City, spoke with Stephanie Poplock’s clinical psychology class.

Out of the Classroom into a Career

In April, 16 students traveled to Washington, D.C., to see firsthand what happens in and around the federal government. Alumni of Distinction honoree Susan VanGelder ’76, who became a docent at the Supreme Court after her retirement from the Federation of American Hospitals, offered a tour of the court building. Before a tour of the Capitol building, the students met with U.S. Rep. John Faso, who represents Oneonta. The students took the opportunity to ask a few great questions, and he offered some advice to them.

Later in April, 13 students traveled to New York City to meet with and talk to alumni who work in the music industry. David Castagna ’99, associate director with Sony BMG; Amy Tremmel ’07, senior director of marketing for the Syndicate; Diana Zimmi ’07, singer-songwriter and studio manager for Joe Lambert Mastering; and Jillian Reda ’14, senior coordinator of film and TV licensing for BMG, participated in a lunchtime roundtable. Eric Lense ’07 closed out the day with a conversation about his work as the senior director of business affairs for SESAC, a licensing organization.

Also in April, Shawna Scoville ’13, Jonathan Dershowitz ’11, and Denise Natoli ’13 were among the returning Red Dragons for a social science networking night. George Allen ’87, Ronald Ladouceur ’81, and Barbara Ann Heegan ’99 answered questions from students during the Harvey Delany Leadership Institute (HDLI).

These events were funded (in part) by the SUNY Oneonta Alumni Association through charitable gifts to the Fund for Oneonta.

From WONY to WNYC

On March 23, a group of 15 student members of WONY-FM (90.9), SUNY Oneonta’s student-run radio station, took a Student Association-sponsored field trip to New York City to visit major radio institutions and learn about the industry. They were accompanied by Andrew Bottomley, WONY faculty advisor and assistant professor of media studies in SUNY Oneonta’s Department of Communication and Media.

In the morning, the students visited New York Public Radio, which operates WNYC, an NPR affiliate and the most listened-to public radio station in the country. While receiving a guided tour of NYPR’s newsrooms and studios, students were able to observe the legendary Brian Lehrer hosting his live call-in talk show, The Brian Lehrer Show. Plus, when they first arrived in the NYPR lobby, the WONY group immediately ran into one of Lehrer’s upcoming guests, the public advocate for the city of New York, Letitia James. The students proceeded to have a warm, engaging conversation with James, who is the city’s second-highest-ranking elected official and the first woman of color to hold citywide office.

The 2018 Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition held its opening reception. The show featured over a hundred works by student artists. Painting, drawing, sculpture, digital print, digital video, and an assortment of mixed media made up this year’s offerings.
Technology Makes International Collaboration Possible

Technology and some creative thought led to SUNY Oneonta students experiencing the global community from campus classrooms — and vice versa.

Thanks to the SUNY-wide Center for Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL), undergraduate and graduate students can learn together, both virtually and in person. Last academic year, foreign language and literature professor Maria Cristina Montoya collaborated with instructors at the Universidad del Valle in Cali, Colombia, for an elementary Spanish course. At the end of the semester, 20 students traveled to Cali. Cooperstown Graduate Program professor Will Walker also has leveraged this connection for his students.

A COIL course provides the opportunity for young adults in both places to learn about each other’s culture and language in a way that goes beyond what can be experienced in a traditional classroom. Current COIL modules on the Oneonta campus include partnerships with universities in Mexico, Japan, and Morocco. For more watch the video online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cpt8tnBjtGE

Faculty and Staff Work Together Across the Globe

The Division of College Advancement thanks educational psychology, counseling, and special education professor Brian Beitzel for his work building connections with SUNY Oneonta alumni and friends during his grant-assisted sabbatical in 2017-18. During that time, Beitzel presented his research at conferences in Hawaii, Dubai, Vienna, Bangkok, Dublin, and Athens — and, when possible, visited Red Dragons to talk about the work of the College. Beitzel’s work with advancement, he said, “helped build a mutual understanding of what each part of the College does. The more we can understand each other’s goals, the more we can work together.” Beitzel recently received an American Council on Education fellowship, where he will spend a year on a different college campus and learn about the administrative side of higher education.

Science 1 Building Renamed in Honor of an Alumna

SUNY Oneonta’s Science 1 building has been named the “Janet R. Perna Science Building” in recognition of Janet Perna ’70 and her gift of $5 million to the State University College at Oneonta Foundation.

Half of the $5 million gift will be allocated to the unrestricted endowment, which funds many campus programs, including student-faculty research and creative activities, internship support, faculty development, and board-designated scholarships. The other half will be directed to the Janet Perna ’70 Women in Technology Scholarship.

“I am making this significant gift because I believe in the importance of a quality education to improving the overall socioeconomic climate within the United States and worldwide,” Perna said. “Like many students who attend SUNY Oneonta, I was the first in my family to graduate from college. This gift will make it possible for others to have the opportunity to realize their dreams and aspirations.” The building’s dedication ceremony is October 19.

The brothers of Phi Kappa Psi hosted their Car Smash philanthropy event in the Schumacher Quad. In exchange for a donation, students smashed an old car with a sledgehammer.
Students Celebrated at the 13th Annual Academic Achievement Awards

On May 2, graduating students were honored at the academic achievement awards reception at the Milne Library. Graduate and undergraduate students were chosen based on academic excellence; demonstrated leadership in their department, campus or community activities; and intellectual acumen and originality. Seven graduate students and 51 undergraduate students received accolades. Each honoree’s name will be placed on an Alumni Association bookplate in a new book related to the student’s major.

A Model of Malaysia Comes to Oneonta

Fifteen SUNY Oneonta students enrolled in Political Science 280 participated in the 2018 National Model United Nations Conference in New York City in March. The Oneonta delegation earned an honorable mention for remaining in character, participating in committee, and properly using the rules of procedure.

During the conference, students confronted a range of topics from the perspective of Malaysia, their assigned country. As they proposed solutions to global concerns and discussed current world issues, they gained a better understanding of the inner workings of the UN and honed their skills in debate, conflict resolution, and compromise.

“It was so amazing being able to witness people from all around the world work together to establish resolutions that ensure the betterment of our world,” said political science major Connor Larrison ‘19. “It provided me with a sense of confidence in our future leaders that one day soon, we will be the ones drafting and implementing real policies that will increase the sustainable development throughout all nations in our international community.”

Students Gather Data at the Mall

A new project developed by SUNY Oneonta’s psychology and sociology departments is giving six students learning experience in health care and human services while also looking to alleviate some serious community problems.

To learn more about the area and its residents, students conducted survey research at the Southside Mall in Oneonta. This research is focused on knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors of residents of nearby counties. It is designed to assess residents’ risks of alcohol/illegal drug abuse and mental illness and identify challenges to health and wellness in rural areas.

The project was led by sociology professors Alex Thomas and Gregory Fulkerson and psychology professor James Zians. As the project continues, the students will develop a countywide map of substance abuse treatment and mental health services and resources. Students also will assist local agencies with program evaluations and run an analysis to identify gaps within the county’s continuum of care.

Hands-on Help in the Big Easy

Eighteen students got hands-on experience with wetlands restoration during a service-learning trip in New Orleans’ Lower Ninth Ward in March. The trip was a component of Geography 384: Disaster Geographies, a course taught by Wendy Lascell ’97, who accompanied the students, along with Linda Drake ’91 ’94G, director of the College’s Center for Social Responsibility and Community. Lascell has taken several groups of students to New Orleans for similar trips.

Working with the nonprofit organization Common Ground Relief, the students planted hardy, fast-growing native plants and removed invasive species in coastal areas imperiled by hurricanes. They planted thousands of Cypress trees, visited the levee that broke during Hurricane Katrina, and rescued an abandoned dog that was starving in the wetlands.

“On these service-learning trips, students gain invaluable experience for both academic and personal growth,” Lascell said. “They are engaged in service, immersed in an unfamiliar culture, and confronted with real-world problems that don’t have easy solutions. They get to be a part of the solutions while they learn about the complexities and challenges faced by communities.”

The Awakened Tribe Retreat took place at the College Camp. Attendees drank tea and kombucha, went on a moving meditation, and practiced yoga. The retreat ended with a vegan dinner and music.
SUNY-wide Student Research and Creative Activity Comes to Oneonta

On April 20, SUNY Oneonta was full of students from 28 SUNY colleges and universities presenting research and creative activity projects during the SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC).

SURC brings together undergraduate researchers and faculty mentors for two daylong programs of presentations, including performances, art displays, poster sessions, oral presentations, and related offerings held on two campuses. The second SURC event was April 21 at Monroe Community College in Rochester.
At SURC, students presented 181 research projects in two poster sessions and another 77 projects in oral presentations. The projects covered a wide variety of disciplines, with topics ranging from “The Effect of Water Availability on Reproductive Outcomes in Bean Beetles” to “The Significance of Food Imagery in the Bible.” Student-faculty research at SUNY Oneonta is supported by the College at Oneonta Foundation’s unrestricted endowment and by the SUNY Oneonta Alumni Association through charitable gifts to the Fund for Oneonta.

Students and faculty attended workshops on topics such as “Engaging Underrepresented Students in Applied Learning Opportunities” and “So, You Want to Be an Entrepreneur?” The day also included a SUNY graduate school fair, a sustainability tour, a planetarium presentation, and the chance to explore hands-on learning activities at the A.J. Read Science Discovery Center.

Fourteen SUNY Oneonta students presented performance and visual art sessions encompassing slam poetry, theatrical design, piano, and DJing in the Fine Arts Center. “Mente et Amino,” a sculptural installation by Dina Atwa ’18 and John Jaromack ’19, whose work was funded by an award from the Student Grant Program for Research and Creative Activity, enticed viewers in the Fine Arts Building’s lobby.

Emily Shaver ’20 presented a poster about a food science project testing how much avocado could be substituted for butter in a brownie recipe without negatively affecting its taste. “We wanted to reduce the saturated fat by replacing the butter with the healthier fat from the avocado,” she said. “The most popular version was the 25 percent avocado recipe, but I liked the one with 100 percent avocado. It was creamier when you bit into it and a little more dense.”

The full program is available at oneonta.edu/surc
Nearly 1,700 students graduated at Commencement on Saturday, May 12, at the Alumni Field House. This year’s speaker was Alumni of Distinction honoree **Charles E. Bogosta ’80**, a leader in global health care management. Over the course of two decades of service to the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, he has distinguished himself for exceptional work establishing hospitals, research centers, cancer institutes, and laboratories across the world. In his current role as the medical center’s executive vice president, Bogosta is responsible for the strategic, operational, and financial activities of institutes and centers in 11 countries. An expert on global partnerships within the health care industry, he has been a panelist for the World Hospital Congress.
“If you put yourself out there and take some chances, the world is at your fingertips,” Bogosta said to the Class of 2018. “The university you graduate from today is so vastly different, more advanced, and better-suited to build the leaders of tomorrow in all fields than the one I loved 38 years ago and love even more now.”

The SUNY Chancellor recognized 11 members of the College community for sustained excellence in their work during the 2017-18 academic year: Susan Clemons ’78, Rebecca Harrington, Sallie Han, April Harper, Keith Jones, Brian Lowe, Debra Schwartz, Kayla Belush ’18, Daniel Prince ’18, Jonelle Reyes ’18, and Anthony Vecere Jr. ’18.

The graduating class chose to give back to their alma mater this year; 434 seniors gave $8,848 to their class gift. Those donations will be put to use in the Fund for Oneonta.

Congratulations to all of our newest alumni!

During the weeks leading up to commencement, the other celebrations of successful college careers dotted the campus. On April 29, the Lavender Graduation Recognition Ceremony took place in the Hunt Union. Rowan Fitzgibbons ’19 and Rosana deJesus ’20, the student coordinators of the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center, were the evening’s masters of ceremonies. Jake Frisbie ’18, Bridget Wilcox ’18, and Ethan Cerio ’18 gave the keynote address. Charlene Christie, chair of the women’s and gender studies department, presented awards, certificates, and cords to the graduating students.

The Kente Ceremony was held on April 24 in the Hunt Union Ballroom. The SUNY World Percussion Ensemble with Xclusive Dance Crew opened the evening’s festivities. Betty Wambui, the chair of the Department of Africana and Latino Studies, was the master of ceremonies. Shinique Smith ’18 received the ALS Academic Achievement Award. Then more than 140 students received handwoven Kente cloth stoles. First worn by the Ashanti of West Africa, Kente cloth dates back to the 12th century.
On July 1, Dr. Barbara Jean Morris was installed as the eighth president of SUNY Oneonta. During her first week on campus, she answered a few questions about how she is enjoying the job so far, what her plans for SUNY Oneonta’s future might be, and her views of the value of a liberal arts education.

What were your first impressions of SUNY Oneonta?
My first impression was how friendly and welcoming everyone is. There is a true dedication and care for students and each other. Part of that care stems from the intentional focus on volunteerism, stewardship, civic engagement, diversity, and cultural competence that create a living-learning community.

I am also impressed with the vibrancy of the College. In these times, so many colleges and universities face significant hardships such as declines in state funding and enrollment. The overall health of the institution is a testament to President Nancy Kleniewski and her strong collaboration with faculty, staff, students, alumni, and the community.

What excites you the most about leading SUNY Oneonta?
I am excited to build on such a solid foundation. While we are in a place of strength, I believe it is important not to become complacent. We are in the midst of a technological revolution. In these fast-paced, ever-changing times, it is essential to be a step ahead and future-proof the College to assure students and their families that their education will be relevant for a changing world. I am thrilled to lead such an inspiring group of individuals who share my passion for empowering students and transforming their lives. I am passionate about the need to ensure quality educational programs while not increasing unduly the burden to families. I am a firm believer that we need to question the
status quo of what content is needed in our disciplines for students to be successful. I am looking forward to engaging faculty, students, and employers in the discussion on what a student needs to know, why they need to know it, and how we can be assured that they are getting it.

What is the value of a liberal arts education?

I adhere to the definition set forth by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU):

*Liberal education is an approach to learning that empowers individuals and prepares them to deal with complexity, diversity, and change. It provides students with broad knowledge of the wider world (e.g. science, culture, and society) as well as in-depth study in a specific area of interest. A liberal education helps students develop a sense of social responsibility, as well as strong and transferable intellectual and practical skills such as communication, analytical and problem-solving skills, and a demonstrated ability to apply knowledge and skills in real-world settings.*

To me a liberal education is the foundation to being able to view the world through multiple lenses. It allows us to develop the skills needed not only for a successful career, but also prepares us for our personal life journey. Lifelong learning and adaptability are essential for the future.

Who were your mentors or the leaders who inspired you? What in particular did you admire most about them?

My mother and father, first and foremost, have been my mentors. They showed me that passion, respect, trust, and support are the pillars on which to build a relationship. They taught me tolerance and resiliency. They believed in me. They ignited my love for adventure and taught me how to survive in the wilderness. They taught me to be kind to people and animals, to respect the earth, to be humble, and to laugh out loud as much as possible.

Are there particular goals that you would like to reach during your first 100 days? Your first six months? Your first year?

*Cent jours* was first used during the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815 to welcome the king back to power. Franklin Delano Roosevelt famously brought it to the U.S. presidency after his election as he conceptualized the New Deal. Often the first 100 days are a response to a crisis and the need to act immediately. Luckily, I am inheriting a strong and vibrant institution, so there is no need for expediency.

In academic life, jobs start in July, which means that faculty, students, and much of the staff are away from campus. Over half of my first 100 days will be relatively quiet. My goals are to start a listening tour and to get acquainted with the culture, people, and community. This first year will provide context for a future strategic plan. I look forward to learning more about the area and its rich history – Oneonta is “the place of open rocks.” Importantly, I want to learn about the Six Nations of our region and their culture.

How do you see the relationship between the College and surrounding communities?

I believe strongly that the College should have a solid relationship with the community. We need to create intentional strategies to move beyond just being an employer but to be a lead player in helping to attract business to the area. There are several potential avenues — such as creating business incubators, avenues for investors by collaborating with corporate business; city, town, county, and state officials; and using START-UP NY and enterprise zone programs. It will be very important to conduct an impact study to see where we can be a catalyst for growth and development in the region.
As a leader on campus, I challenge the faculty to be more deliberate in making connections for students to provide them with the opportunities both inside and outside of class to become responsible and innovative doers.

I believe in transformative education. It is essential to capture our students’ attention and imagination so that they can facilitate their own deep learning. I believe SUNY Oneonta provides an environment that not only creates critical thinkers, but, importantly in today’s fragmented world, prepares students to create a pathway for a more just, humane, and sustainable world.

From what I see, Oneonta does not have “accidental teachers.” The innovative teaching and pedagogy is designed to connect the curriculum to the world in meaningful ways. This year’s common reading experience, *Just Mercy*, is a wonderful example of how we challenge ourselves to extend our intellectual and personal boundaries. Our living learning communities also create opportunities for learning both in and outside the classroom.

In terms of my leadership style, I am authentic and accessible. It is important to be present to the community; SUNY system, donors, and alumni, but also internally to students, staff, and faculty. To be authentic, I believe that shared values are essential.

I see the big picture but understand the necessity of data and not losing sight of details. I believe that we all come to the table seeing issues from different lenses and that collaborative decisions are the best. Essentially, I will strive to be a model and to help inspire a shared vision. I will, on occasion, challenge the status quo and conventional wisdom. I will enable others to act and, importantly, encourage the spirit and heart.

I believe today’s leaders need to be anticipatory and adaptable. This means sometimes leading from the front, ruddering from behind, and, most often, standing side by side.

I tend to see everything in terms of relationships and community. Indeed, as stated earlier, my own research centers on both gendered institutions and leadership and re-instilling harmony back to Indian tribes. I believe the Native American symbol of the circle best illustrates my desire for a process of decision-making that is based on mutual understanding, respect, communication, and a shared commitment. I am thrilled with the opportunity to work with a college dedicated to fostering a community committed to student learning, scholarly endeavor, and an interdisciplinary understanding of the world around us.

I believe President Kleniewski has been “a clock builder,” to use Jim Collins’ words from *Built to Last*. She has laid a wonderful foundation to embrace and enhance. I appreciate the support and dedication to SUNY Oneonta and the warm welcome many of you have given me. I look forward to chances to meet you on campus and during upcoming events in your hometowns.

Dr. Barbara Jean Morris
President
SUNY Oneonta

Building a Tradition
Brick by Brick

The Alumni Brick Garden presents a way to commemorate your time at SUNY Oneonta, honor people you care about, or memorialize a fellow graduate or member of the campus community.

Donated by the Class of 2010, the Alumni Brick Garden is a permanent tribute to those who have made SUNY Oneonta the outstanding college it is today.

For more information, go to oneontaalumni.com or contact the Office of Alumni Engagement at 607-436-2526.
For the past six years, the incoming class of students reads the same book—and members of the larger College community have been encouraged to read the same title as well. The Common Read’s purpose is to generate dialogue around diversity and inclusion.

The program kicked off in 2013 with Sherman Alexie’s *Flight*, Marjane Satrapi’s *Persepolis*, Ishmael Beah’s *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*, Janet Mock’s *Redefining Realness*, and Margot Lee Shetterly’s *Hidden Figures* have each had a turn as the campus’ common read. This year’s title was recommended by Laurie Zimniewicz ’69, who thought Bryan Stevenson’s *Just Mercy* would be an excellent fit for the program.

*Just Mercy* is about the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice founded by Stevenson that is devoted to defending those who are trapped in the furthest reaches of our judicial system as well as the poor and the wrongly condemned. Part of Stevenson’s story is about one of the first cases he handled as a lawyer.

Walter McMillian, a young man at the time, was sentenced to die for a murder he didn’t commit. The issues surrounding his case set Stevenson on a lifetime journey to discover the meanings of justice and of mercy.

“This is one of the few cases I’ve worked on where I got bomb threats and death threats because we were fighting to free this man who was so clearly innocent,” Stevenson told NPR’s Terry Gross. “It reveals this disconnect that I’m so concerned about when I think about our criminal justice system.”

Stevenson is a Harvard Law School graduate who has argued six cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. *The New Yorker* named Stevenson’s TED Talk about injustice, which has been viewed more than 2.5 million times, one of five essential TED Talks. Nobel Peace Prize laureate Desmond Tutu has called Stevenson “America’s young Nelson Mandela.”

The SUNY Oneonta audience will get to hear Stevenson’s message for themselves when he gives the 2018 Mills Distinguished Lecture at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 24, in the…
Alumni Field House. This lectureship is named to honor the memory of Professor Albert Mills and his wife, Helena. Their bequest to the College at Oneonta Foundation led to the establishment of a fund in 1988 that brings prominent speakers to campus.

But the integration of the Common Read into the fabric of the community doesn’t end after Stevenson’s lecture. The psychology department’s James Zians will moderate a discussion of a film about the Stanford Prison Experiment. The economics, finance, and accounting department’s Sean Shannon ’89 and Brittany Williams ’18 will lead a discussion about a film about the Central Park Five. The films *12 Angry Men*, *13th*, and *Detroit* will also be screened and discussed.

In addition, panel discussions will address the impact of incarceration on individuals and families; driving while black; and the impact of incarceration on society. These discussions also will spill into the greater Oneonta community when secondary education professor Thor Gibbons facilitates a discussion at the Huntington Public Library. A full schedule of events is available: https://suny.oneonta.edu/diversity/common-read/calendar-events

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To celebrate the 130th birthday of SUNY Oneonta, the SUNY Oneonta Alumni Association will recognize 30 notable alumni under the age of 30.

Nominees must be 29 or younger as of March 15, 2019, and show exceptional achievement and significant contributions to their profession, their community, or the College.

Visit oneontaalumni.com/30under30 to view the eligibility requirements and find out how to nominate yourself or someone else for this honor.
More than 600 alumni, family, and friends came back to campus June 8-10 to celebrate Reunion Weekend in the place where so many stories began. Thank you for coming back! Additional thanks to all of the volunteers — from class chairs to check-in helpers.

Red Dragons spent the weekend enjoying many (many!) meals, tours of the campus, hikes from College Camp, and golf and tennis tournaments. They went back to the Rat and had SOURS at the Fox. Even with all of the fun things to do, the best part might have been the time spent just hanging out with each other.

“Meeting up with long-ago friends is more than enough, but the College provided the format and the events to make it even more relevant and special,” wrote Jerry D’Anneo ’74.

There were affinity reunions, too. The Class of 1968 celebrated its 50th reunion. According to Barbara Terry Charnews ’68, they had plenty to do.

“We enjoyed the meals, cocktail hour, planetarium, walking campus, the barbecue, brunch near the art gallery, talking with classmates.” she wrote. “The campus looked terrific, and we enjoyed the friendly workers. We truly enjoyed the reunion.”
Our thanks go to Bill Bogatz ’74, who took on the tennis tournament, and to Paul van der Sommen ’76, who has offered the Oneonta Tennis Center for Reunion Weekend for a decade.

“We had eight alumni take part and another eight who played last year but could not make it this year. I have been able to grow this event from year to year,” Bogatz said. “The planning and number of events offered for Reunion Weekend is fantastic and unmatched by anybody else. ...I could see the work, effort, and planning that took place to put such a wonderful weekend together.”

If you’d like to help make Reunion Weekend 2019 (June 7-9) the biggest party of the year as a class chair or a volunteer, get in touch: oneontaalumni.com/get-involved/become-a-volunteer.

The Alumni Association Awards committee is pleased to announce the 2018 Alumni Awards recipients. The awards were celebrated on Saturday, June 9, at the Alumni Awards and Volunteer Recognition Celebration Breakfast during Reunion Weekend.

The ceremony was a moving one, according to 2018 award winner Mark Delligatti ’75.

“What a great group to be included in,” he wrote. “There was well over half-a-century of SUNY Oneonta’s history represented with winners from government and military service, the arts, the fields of education, psychology, sociology, aviation, and the law — all of whom are united in service to our wonderful school.”

This year’s winners were Jane Grastorf, Ted Herrmann ’70, Leah Baratz ’18, Timothy Distler ’18, William Vining ’81, Paul Perlman ’76, Kyle Beckley ’08, Illya Boseski ’11, the Women’s Glee Club (1957-72), and Caroline D’Antonio ’67.

This year, in honor of her retirement, President Nancy Kleniewski and her husband, William H. Davis, were made honorary alumni. To learn more about this year’s winners, go to oneontaalumni.com/events/reunion/alumni-association-award-winners.

For more information about the 2019 Alumni Awards, go to oneontaalumni.com/alumni-association-awards.

2018 Annual Alumni Association Awards

The Alumni Association Awards committee is pleased to announce the 2018 Alumni Awards recipients. The awards were celebrated on Saturday, June 9, at the Alumni Awards and Volunteer Recognition Celebration Breakfast during Reunion Weekend.
In time for SUNY Oneonta’s 130th anniversary in 2019, the Alumni Association presents *Pathways to SUNY Oneonta’s Second Century (1990-2015)*.

Continuing where *In Honor and Good Faith: Completing the First Century* left off, this new book, written by David Brenner ’57, ’59G, looks at SUNY Oneonta as it entered the millennium. Beginning in 1990, it explores how the College has grown and changed as it has become an increasingly diverse and modern institution.

This book sits beautifully beside the two previous volumes of the College’s history to create a comprehensive look at SUNY Oneonta from its founding in 1889 to 2015 and the College it is today.

You can pre-order a copy of *Pathways to SUNY Oneonta’s Second Century (1990-2015)* for $15.99 each (price includes shipping) by visiting oneontaalumni.com/book or completing the attached form.

PATHWAYS ORDER FORM:

I would like to pre-order _______ copies of *Pathways to SUNY Oneonta’s Second Century (1990-2015)*. Enclosed is my check for $15.99 per book made out to the SUNY Oneonta Alumni Association.

Name: __________________________________________________________

Class Year: ______________________________________________________

Email: __________________________________________________________

Mailing Address: ________________________________________________

City: ____________________________ State: ____________ ZIP: __________

*MAIL TO: Office of Alumni Engagement | 118 Alumni Hall | SUNY Oneonta | Oneonta, NY 13820*
Kevin Mackin ’20 of the men’s basketball team and Daniel Ioos ’20 of the men’s soccer team were recognized as SUNY Chancellor Scholar Athlete Award recipients. Both also earned the Scholar Athlete of the Year awards from the SUNYAC in their respective sports.

State University of New York Chancellor Kristina M. Johnson announced the winners of the award.

“It is my pleasure to congratulate our Scholar Athlete awardees for their achievement in the classroom and on the playing field,” Johnson said. “These student-athletes balance a challenging workload while demonstrating leadership and service.”

Ioos has been a starting player for Oneonta during his first two seasons with the men’s soccer program, which has made consecutive NCAA tournament appearances. This past fall, he started 16 of the 18 games he played in and contributed a pair of assists.

Academically, Ioos carried a 3.97 GPA while majoring in business economics. He has received the Provost’s, Susan Sutton Smith, and Richard Siegfried awards for academic excellence along with being named to the 2016-17 SUNYAC Scholar Honor Roll. Mackin followed up his outstanding 2016-17 rookie season with another tremendous year. He led the basketball team in scoring with 334 points including 82 3-point baskets, one shy of tying the program’s single-season record. The business economics major, who also is minoring in sports management, had a GPA of 3.86 in the fall of 2017 to bring his overall GPA to a 3.59.

Mackin is a Dean’s List student who was named to the SUNYAC Commissioner’s Academic Honor Roll. He is part of OPROS (Oneonta Players Reaching Other Students), which is a group of student-athletes who are peer educators on campus as part of an NCAA Choices grant that athletics received last April.

A complete list of 2018 Scholar Athlete Award winners is available at http://www.suny.edu/media/suny/content-assets/images/news/Scholar-Athlete-Awards-2018.pdf

2017-18 Athletic Awards and Team MVPs

Fred Puritz First-Year Players of the Year
Roberto Ventura ’21 (soccer)
Cali Cortese ’21 (field hockey)

G. Hal Chase Awards
Austin Hughes ’18 (soccer)
Thomas Bond ’18 (baseball)
Keley Abbriano ’18 (soccer)
Casey Signorelli ’18 (swimming and diving)

Most Outstanding Single Performances
Austin Sisco ’18 (wrestling)
Julia Llewellyn ’19, Katherine London ’21, Abby Miller ’21, Hannah Dari ’19 (swimming, 800 freestyle relay)

Male Scholar Athlete Award
Kevin Mackin ’20 (basketball)
Marc “Coz” Fiore ’18 (lacrosse)

Lee Abbot Scholar Athlete Award
Hannah Dari ’19 (swimming and diving)
Teresa Anken ’19 (basketball)

Athletes of the Year
James Bethel ’18 (wrestling)
Selena Ruiz ’19 (softball)

Dr. Joseph Heissan ’63 Senior Achievement Award
Cory Santangelo ’18 (soccer)
Kayla Clohessy ’18 (soccer)

Ross Cordell Award
Dave Geasey

SAAC Award
Nancy Kleniewski

Jay Pawa Team Academic Award
Men’s swimming and diving
Women’s soccer
O’BRYANT AND RUIZ EARN ALL-REGION HONORS

Tyler O’Bryant ’19 and Selena Ruiz ’19 were recognized as All-Region performers for outstanding seasons. O’Bryant is a sprinter for the track and field team, and Ruiz is the starting catcher for the softball team.

O’Bryant was an All-American during the indoor season after placing fourth in the 60-meter dash and qualified in the 100-meter dash in the spring. O’Bryant didn’t lose a race during the regular indoor season and carried that performance over to the outdoor season, recording the fastest time in the Atlantic Region. His outdoor ranking in the 100 earned him his All-Region honor from the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA).

Ruiz earned All-Region honors for the first time of her career. Ruiz was a first team All-SUNYAC selection this spring for the first time as well after being on the second team in 2017.

As the starting catcher, Ruiz led the team with a .403 batting average while also being the leader in hits (48) and being tied for the team lead in doubles (9). She scored 22 runs, drove in 10 runs, and collected 57 total bases.

CLOHESSY WINS BOGARD AWARD

Kayla Clohessy ’18 is this year’s recipient of the Dr. Dolores Bogard Award from the State University of New York Athletic Conference. This award recognizes cumulative academic and athletic achievements. Clohessy becomes the fourth woman in school history to receive this prestigious honor.

“Four years ago, as a freshman, I never thought that I would be able to achieve what I have as a student-athlete at SUNY Oneonta,” Clohessy said. “As a recent graduate, I have quickly learned how special the athletic department is and how the relationships I built with my coaches, staff, teammates and professors helped to shape the person I am today. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of SUNY Oneonta’s track and field team, and I will cherish the memories, friendships, and accomplishments forever.”

The award is named after Dolores Bogard, an administrator and coach at SUNY Cortland for over 20 years. She was SUNYAC president during the 1987-88 year.

Clohessy graduated in May with a degree in fashion and textiles while achieving a 3.52 GPA for her four years. Her academic and athletic accolades include:

- Women’s outdoor track and field team MVP in 2016 and 2018
- Three-time NCAA Division III All-American (long jump)
- Five-time NCAA qualifier
- SUNYAC indoor long jump champion, 2016
- ECAC outdoor long jump champion, 2016
- Six-time All-Conference
- Six-time SUNYAC medalist (top 3)
- Indoor and outdoor long jump school record
- Inducted into Chi Alpha Sigma national athlete honor society
- SUNYAC All-Academic Team and Commissioner’s List
- Dr. Joseph Heissan ’63 Senior Achievement Award

SPRING SCOREBOARD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baseball</th>
<th>Softball</th>
<th>Men’s Lacrosse</th>
<th>Women’s Lacrosse</th>
<th>Men’s Tennis</th>
<th>Women’s Track &amp; Field</th>
<th>Men’s Track &amp; Field</th>
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<tr>
<td>12-22</td>
<td>21-15, SUNYAC Tournament</td>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>9-7-1, SUNYAC Tournament</td>
<td>8-12</td>
<td>7th Place SUNYAC</td>
<td>5th Place SUNYAC, NCAA Qualifier</td>
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During a Thursday evening at SUNY Oneonta, students study, hang out, and participate in extracurricular activities in their residence halls, including a meeting of the Students of Color Coalition in Matteson Residence Hall.
The transition to SUNY Oneonta — either from high school or a different college — can be tough. First-year students not only have to navigate rigorous academic schedules and heartstopping hills; they have to figure out where on campus they’ll find a group of friends to hang out with. A three-year-old program of Living Learning Communities (LLCs) continues to expand on campus to forge those social connections.

Incoming students chose from six LLCs for the 2018-19 year. The themes cover a range of interests, from pre-health majors to those whose passion is sustainability, music, teaching, or social justice. First-year students can opt in if they are drawn to living in the same residence hall with like-minded peers.

“The idea behind the LLCs is for students to come into their first year and identify an area of interest,” says Theresa Russo, the faculty coordinator for the program and a 20-year member of the child and family studies department. “They live with other students who have identified the same interest, take some classes together, do some programming and some socialization together in order to create an environment where they feel supported,” Russo explains.

LLCs can be an integral part of the new student’s first-year experience, which is commonly called the FYE. New Student Services has been working on improving each student’s FYE because it tends to improve student retention and graduation rates. LLCs are one way to do that.

The students in each LLC share a one-credit seminar. The enrollments are limited so that the faculty member who teaches can develop one-on-one relationships with the students. Not only does the faculty member really get to know each student and become better able to recognize when a student is struggling, but the student will likely wind up with a mentor. That happened for **Raven Foote '21**, who lived in the Teach for Change LLC during the 2017-18 year and wants to be a school principal.

“I am grateful for getting to know Zanna McKay, who was the professor in charge of my LLC,” Foote says. “She is someone who I look up to and know that I can go to if I have any questions about teaching classes or just life in general. The Teach for Change LLC allowed me to form friendships with some incredible individuals.”

Each LLC also has a peer mentor. This upperclassman checks in with first-year students to make sure they are adapting to college life. The students also have social events and take field trips. For example, Russo says, during the pre-health FYE course, the instructor takes students to different hospitals to meet people in health professions. For the Community Psychology LLC, the instructor has a relationship with a community nonprofit agency.

“The groups meet to go do those things outside of class time so they know that these are things they want to do after college,” Russo says. “They are not necessarily graded activities, but the students get linked into a part of the community.”

Building these connections helps new students figure out where they belong on campus by giving them firsthand experiences, classroom-based instruction, and a like-minded living environment. Research indicates that LLCs increase student success and retention. In a study published in *Research in Higher Education*, Martha L.A. Stasson found that students in communities such as Oneonta’s LLCs show greater institutional commitment, greater intellectual development, greater tolerance for differences, higher persistence, and higher academic performance.

For Foote, the LLC experience made a difference in how she viewed her first year in higher education. “As a new college student, it was a great way to meet professors in my department and make some friends,” she says. “I wasn’t exactly sure if I wanted to be an adolescent or elementary education teacher, and the LLC helped me to navigate my way. While in the LLC, we were in a one-credit seminar with a faculty member who had taught in the classroom for 20 years. We lived together, ate together, and went to class together.”
In that class, we toured parts of the campus in-depth, learned about resources that could be of value to us, and talked about what it must be like to be a teacher.

“You make friends who are also in your field, which is convenient because you might share other classes with these people. It is nice that everyone in the LLC lives in the same building because we would have pizza parties and were able to easily meet up and hang out with one another. The LLCs help make coming to college a smoother transition.”

SUNY Oneonta is one of many colleges, like Brown and Syracuse universities, that have LLCs. They’ve been added to the undergraduate experience not because they are trendy but because research has shown that LLC students tend to have higher academic success, higher levels of satisfaction with their colleges, and higher graduation rates.

The experience doesn’t have to be limited to current students and faculty. Russo says alumni can get involved. Last year, the Leadership LLC had the opportunity to spend time with alumni who returned to campus for the Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series.

“I think there are more opportunities,” she says. “Some of the thinking behind LLCs is that they are also about networking and engaging students. We would love for our alumni to be a part of that. We’d love to hear from them.”

“The kinds of experiences are what make them lifelong connected to the College. It’s about academics, and it’s about helping them get started right off the bat into their academic world — but there’s also community building.”

Russo and the FYE team plan to introduce two new communities each year until they reach 10, with a possible expansion to 12.

If you would like to know more about LLCs, see suny.oneonta.edu/student-life/campus-living/living-learning-communities or email Theresa.Russo@oneonta.edu.
Mark Your Calendar

September
13  Jean Parish Student Art Show Opening Reception, Oneonta, New York
15  Dining for Champions, Oneonta, New York
16  Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, Oneonta New York
21-23 Family Weekend, Oneonta, New York
22  Legacy Family Reception, Oneonta, New York
28  2018 Alumni of Distinction Presentation of Honors, Oneonta, New York

October
3   Barbara K. Weigand Gallery & Student Lounge Dedication, Oneonta, New York
11  Meet & Greet with President Barbara Jean Morris, Westchester, New York
18  “Navigating a New Tax World” presented by Marty Finn, Oneonta. New York

November
7    Meet & Greet with Dr. Morris, Rochester, New York
15  Capital District Welcome Reception, Albany, New York

January
10  Goodrich to Broadway, New York City
11  New Years Social, New York City
18  Alumni of Distinction Networking Luncheon, New York City

Events are always being added to our calendar. Please check online for updates: oneontaalumni.com
FROM THE COLLEGE FOUNDATION ...

THANK YOU!

our year in review

2017-18
$4,178,569.76

faculty, staff & students: 14.0%
parents & friends: 12.0%
alumni: 67.0%

foundation & corporate support: 7.0%

9,032 gifts & grants

24% online giving

1,000+ students impacted by scholarships & student support funds

729 donors with annual gifts of $1,000 and higher

THANK YOU!

STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AT ONEONTA FOUNDATION CORPORATION

This is our legal name, and it is important that this name be used in wills, retirement plans, life insurance policies, and all other estate planning documents that name the College as a beneficiary of a gift or bequest. For more information about giving to SUNY Oneonta now or in the future, please contact:

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SUNY Oneonta | Oneonta, NY 13820
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http://www.oneonta.edu/advancement/

2017-18

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faculty, staff & students: 14.0%

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24% online giving

THANK YOU!
The Foundation Board Says Hello and Goodbye

The Foundation Board of Directors gratefully bids farewell to Edward Hyde Clark '10 and Taylor DeMarco '18, with recognition and appreciation of outstanding commitment to volunteer leadership. New members of the board are Harry Bradshaw Matthews ’74 and Alumni of Distinction Honoree Paul Perlman ’76:

Harry Bradshaw Matthews ’74
Harry Bradshaw Matthews holds a master’s degree in counseling education from Northern Michigan University. Currently, he is the associate dean and director in the Office of Intercultural Affairs at Hartwick College, where he also is the founding president of the United States Colored Troops Institute for Local History and Family Research. Matthews’ major research interests involve African-Americans of the Civil War through World War II, the anti-slavery movement, and the Underground Railroad. A long-standing supporter of the Fund for Oneonta, he established the Pamela L. Matthews & Harry Bradshaw Matthews Scholarship in July 2017. He resides in Davenport, New York.

Paul Perlman, J.D. ’76
Alumni of Distinction honoree Paul Perlman earned his law degree from Harvard Law School. He recently retired as a partner from Hodgson Russ, where he specialized in contract law and intellectual property. Perlman previously served an eight-year term on the College at Oneonta Foundation Board of Directors and was president from 2013 to 2017. He chaired the advancement committee and was key in the development of SUNY Oneonta’s Possibilities Full of Promise 125th Anniversary Campaign, which raised over $13 million. He established an endowed scholarship at SUNY Oneonta in memory of his parents, Eleanor and Max Perlman. Paul and his wife, Beth, reside in Orchard Park, New York.

Helen & Michael Casper Fellowship for Internship Support

Made possible by the charitable gifts from Andrea Casper ’75, in honor and memory of her parents, the Fund is intended to help make internship experiences accessible for SUNY Oneonta students, recognizing the impact an internship has on a student’s educational experience and career.

Diana Cervantes
Class of 2018
Family Service Coordinator Assistant
Agri-Business Child Development Ctr

"Recently, I was offered a full-time position with this agency upon graduation. Through working with families daily I have learned more about myself in knowing that helping and making an impact on these families is something I value. This scholarship motivated me in wanting to help others seek internships that are related to their field of studies, and inspired me to give back to the community."

Dillon Selvaggi
Class of 2019
Talk Programming Intern
Sirius XM’s channel Volume

"Having to worry less about the expense of our school’s credit cost and the Metro North’s travel expenses will allow me to focus my attention and energy toward the tasks I am presented with. Ultimately, I will have a clearer mind when I walk through the door every day, which will, in turn, enable my ability to grow into the media professional I aspire to be."

Samantha Valiando
Class of 2018
Dietetic Intern
PACE CNY

"This internship is going to have an everlasting impact on my future. It will not only allow me to continue to work on my professional and applicable nutrition skills, but it is also great experience to have prior to applying to accredited internship programs. This summer internship will really allow me to stand out because of the hands on experience, and will only help my passion for the field grow."
The primary funding source for your alumni association comes from your donations to the Fund for Oneonta each year. These gifts help provide the foundation for everything you love about the SUNY Oneonta Alumni Association. Annual dollars provided through the Fund for Oneonta are flexible and immediately available, enabling those dollars to be directed wherever the need is greatest. Tuition and fees account for only a portion of SUNY Oneonta's annual budget, so annual contributions to the Fund for Oneonta are crucial.

When you make an annual fund gift, you make a difference in the lives of talented and deserving students because you provide opportunities for them to excel. Your gift allows you to play a significant role in supporting the College's rich history and to advance the College's overall mission by supporting our outstanding students and faculty. Visit oneontaalumni.com/give to do your part and help make a difference.
Above: Members of the Class of 1968 at their 25th Reunion in 1993 and below sharing a toast at the Pillars during their 50th Reunion in 2018.
1944
Rose Marcantonio reports that she is still “chugging along” at age 95.

1946
Mary Huntington was awarded a Daughters of the American Revolution Service Award for her volunteer work at Alfred State University and in her community.

1954
Virginia McMorris will attend Skidmore College’s Encore seven-week lecture series.

1959
Nancy Swann enjoyed having two of her three grandchildren visit at Christmastime. Her third grandchild lives in San Antonio, and she sees her through pictures and Facetime.

1960
Arethusa sisters gathered at the Otesaga Resort in Cooperstown, New York, on June 7. Front row, from left: Janet Pihl Wemple, Mimi Hildreth Leonard, Debby Beeler Clough, Charlotte Moulton Calabrese, and Helene “Mitzi” McQuade Manning; back, from left: Ann Henriksson Sullivan, Marion Scholz Axhoj, and Ginny Pitkin Rossuck.

1962
Eleanore Gibson moved to Washington state to be closer to her grandkids.
Ardith Schneider writes children’s books, including four Mortimer Mouse books for the Ocean House in Rhode Island and three about Vero Beach, Florida.

1963
Nine Alpha Sig sisters had a wonderful reunion in Dewey Beach, Delaware. Back row, from left: Sally Page Barea, Joan Vanecek, Beth Gallup Pranzo, Shirley Mikó Nacey, Wendy Blumenfeld Painter; front row, from left: Joan Dockweiler Lund, Claire Kennedy Taylor, Rose Dinora Schweitzer, Carole Brown Read.

1965
Gail Fitzpatrick is the president of the Endwell Garden Club. She has been retired for 10 years and enjoys traveling and volunteering.

1966
Douglas M. Johnson is enjoying the adventures of traveling.

1968
Arthur Friedberg retired in January from Mohawk Valley Community College in Utica, New York, after 47.5 years of teaching economics and other related courses. During his career, he received MVCC Excellence in Teaching Award; a SUNY Excellence in Teaching Award; and the MVCC and SUNY Excellence in Faculty Service awards. He would be happy to hear from any classmates at afriedberg@mvcc.edu.

Dietmar Trick was inducted into the New York State Softball Hall of Fame for his work as a player manager for 56 consecutive years in Suffolk County. He is entering his 57th year as a manager.

On Aug. 31, Antonio Perez, president of the Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC/CUNY), retired after having served 23 years at the college.
You, too, can help deserving students like Kimmy achieve their dreams.

Simply make the College at Oneonta Foundation a beneficiary of a percentage or all of your IRA, TIAA account, or other qualified retirement plan. Your gift will help ensure that future generations of young people benefit from a SUNY Oneonta education, all without affecting your current finances. Your future gift will qualify you for membership in our Netzer Planned Giving Society.

Mark Delligatti ’75 did just that, and feels great about his gift. “Making the College at Oneonta Foundation a beneficiary of one of my retirement accounts is one lasting way that I can demonstrate my gratitude, not only for the education I received, but for the life-long friends I made there.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
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SUNY Oneonta | Oneonta, NY 13820
Phone: (607) 436-2781
Email: Ellen.Blaisdell@oneonta.edu
oneonta.edu/giftplanning/retirementplans
**1969**

Linda Burger has enjoyed 14 years of retirement and spending time with her eight grandchildren.

Karen and Paul Lanspery traveled to Ireland from Southern California. It was the first opportunity to use their new SUNY Oneonta umbrella.

Since her retirement, Joan Williams stays active by subbing at her school, singing in the church choir, and visiting with her five grandchildren and great-grandson. Also, she took a cruise to Greece, Italy, and Turkey.

**1970**

John Rabolt and his research partner D. Bruce Chase received the 2018 Award for Cooperative Research in Polymer Science and Engineering from the American Chemical Society Division of Polymeric Materials Science and Engineering.

**1971**

Colette Odell is very proud of her grandson Tavin Odell. He turned 6 in April and earned his yellow belt in taekwondo.

**1972**

Richard Bodenschatz has retired from SUNY New Paltz after a 40-year career. In 2013, he won the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Public Service.

Eileen Bray was elected to the Albany-area Community Caregivers board of directors. It is a not-for-profit organization that uses a pool of volunteers to provide non-medical services.

**1973**

Ken Ettinger retired in July 2017 after 27 years with the New York State Department of Labor in Queens and Brooklyn. He currently lives in Queens.

Arthur Leahy retired as an adjunct professor of economics at the University of Maryland. Previously, he was an economist with the federal government.

Robert Pfeiffer, a former New York City business executive, has retired. He and his wife, Rhonda, have relocated to Raleigh, North Carolina, and this avid golfer is looking forward to this chapter of his life.

Stanley Shaffer, the chief operator at the Oneonta water treatment plant, received the 2017 Operator’s Meritorious Service Award from the New York section of the American Water Works Association.

**1974**

Karen Houck has three new bionic parts. She and Howard ’69 have a new granddaughter and like to travel. She would like Archery Club members to get in contact.

Anna Schmidt Schuhart, second from left, found that Red Dragons can almost always be found. Recently, she traveled to Western national parks and, in Yosemite, saw a man wearing a SUNY Oneonta shirt. His daughter had just graduated. Another woman from the Class of 1974 was in the area as well, and they snapped this picture. Does anyone know the woman in the Maryland shirt or the Class of 2018 graduate standing third from left? Email us at alumni@oneonta.edu.

Wayne Wright ’69 ’73G received the Herbert H. Lehman Prize for Distinguished Service from the New York Academy of History.

Robert Gage retired from the Otsego County Department of Social Services in June 2017.
Karen Koeppel has many fond memories from her SUNY Oneonta days and her Arethusa sisters. She had a wonderful career. She and her husband are both retired and loving life with their five grandchildren.

Gerri Matthews was honored with a 2017 community service award for her work at the Staten Island Mental Health Society. She started as a caseworker and is the director of the Chait Mental Health Center.

1975

William Failing thanks Oneonta “for all you did for me, including being in a one-act play directed by Alumni of Distinction honoree Bill Pullman. Yes, that Bill Pullman. He is not only a good actor, but a good director, too.”

In 2014, Randolph Haus finished a 38-year career as a police officer. He also worked for 15 years as a volunteer firefighter and EMT in Trumansburg, New York.

1977

Mitchell Rakita sold his cheese store, and Barbara Rakita retired from Kings Park Central School District in Kings Park, New York. They are living the dream with three grandchildren.

Wayne Travell was recognized by Chambers USA for his work in general commercial litigation for Hirschler Fleischer.

1978

Chef and Alumni of Distinction honoree Joe Poon taught a three-hour class to a small group of high school students in Amboy, New Jersey. During the event, he created six dishes from one quarter-pound lobster, including dessert.

1979

Dayve Brasuell is a community advocate for the Lower East Side of Manhattan in New York City.

Deborah Rodolfy is the co-principal at Rutland Town Elementary School in Rutland, Vermont.

David Wunsch directs the Delaware Geological Survey. It hosted the 110th Annual Meeting of the Association of American State Geologists (AASG), which represents the chief geologists of the 50 states and Puerto Rico. The meeting drew leaders from industry and government agencies.

1981

Maureen McDonald retired in 2017. She ended her career in Texas with Dell as vice president of human resources. You can find her during the summers at “The Pink House” on Martha’s Vineyard, where she hopes you’ll stop by and say hello!

Ed Swallow visited Ohio University to talk with students, faculty, and staff at the Russ College of Engineering. Swallow is executive vice president for the Aerospace Corp.
In October, Alumni of Distinction honoree Don Garber will be inducted into the National Soccer Hall of Fame in Frisco, Texas. Garber was named commissioner of Major League Soccer in the U.S. in 1999. Since then, MLS has more than doubled in size. He is also CEO of Soccer United Marketing, the exclusive marketing partner of U.S. Soccer, and a member of the U.S. Soccer Federation board of directors. “The induction ceremony will be a moment to look back on the incredible progress the game has made in the United States and also see many of the talented and generous people I’ve had the privilege to work with during my career in soccer,” Garber said.

1982
Alumni of Distinction honoree Roland A. Caputo is the chief financial officer for the New York Times Co.

Laurie Klarsfeld Carpenter, director of marketing at Peregrine Senior Living at Clifton Park Memory Care Community, and her husband, Kevin, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary in Switzerland (photo below). She had a wonderful reunion weekend in New York City with Kathy Badalamenti Ogden and, along with her “over-the-pond” Oneonta roommate, Kris Karas Woll, keeps in touch with the family she lived with in Nottingham, England, while participating in the exchange student program back in the spring of 1981.

1983
Franklin S. Abrams, a partner in the intellectual property law boutique firm Springut Law, was the Innovation Forum guest speaker for the New Jersey Packaging Executives Club.

Alice Quinn is living in Rockville Center, Long Island, New York, with her husband and two children, Katherine, 17, and John, 15. She is an executive recruiter and fondly remembers her time at Oneonta, especially when she was as a resident advisor in Blodgett Hall.

Scott Ziegler began his 33rd year of working in baseball. He is the director of ticket operations for the Columbus Clippers, the AAA affiliate of the Cleveland Indians.

1984
Charles Rothenberg was recognized by Chambers USA for his work in real estate law for Hirschler Fleischer.


1985
Jim Francis is the senior officer and global head of health care, insurance, and life sciences at Virtusa Corp. in Westborough, Massachusetts.

David Remstein is the president and chief operating officer of FinMason, an independent investment analytics engine for financial services platforms.

Ron Steimel was honored at the Friends of Mercy Medical Center’s 52nd annual Gentlemen’s St. Patrick’s Dinner at the Hempstead Golf and Country Club in Hempstead, New York.

1987
Spencer Levy is the senior vice president of retail advisory and transactional services of CBRE.

Steven Reisman joined Katten Muchin Roseman as a partner and head of its New York insolvency and restructuring practice.

1989
Roger and Debora Gerth ’90 Miller celebrated their anniversary in Montego Bay, Jamaica, with John and Heather Kullberg ’91 Nolan. Each couple has a son at SUNY Oneonta.

1990
John Kucewicz ’92G retired in 2016 from his 40-plus-year career in oil, gas, and earth/water resources. He had the pleasure of touring the globe, including Patagonia’s glaciers, the Strait of Magellan, Australia, and Germany.

Christy Lamagna traveled to Rwanda with Heather ’92 and Tom ’92 McArdle for a week in July. Christy is on the board of the not-for-profit Agahozo Shalom Youth Village and invited her college friends to see the project she supports.
20th

SUNY Oneonta alumni met in Rockaway, New Jersey, to celebrate the 50th birthday of Glen Katz. Fellow Red Dragon baseball players got together to celebrate this occasion and to relive the glory days. From left, Michael Patnaude '89, Glen Katz, Rich Lamanque '89, Tim Harkness, and Michael Mignanelli.

1993

Mark Charles Misilli '93, who frequently shares his no-nonsense kitchen finds and gadgets on QVC, has released Easy Everyday Favorites: 150 Recipes Your Family Will Absolutely Love.

1997

Judge Karen Brandt, a lifelong resident of Oswego County, was first elected to the bench as town justice in 2011. She also serves as support magistrate in the 5th Judicial District.

Ron Sanchez is the head basketball coach at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. He was previously an assistant coach at the University of Virginia.


1999

Elisha Mashanic and her husband, Joel, have two boys, ages 12 and 9, who keep them busy with their love of baseball. Elisha teaches family and consumer science at Horseheads Middle School in upstate New York.

Christina Rau read from her recent collection of poetry, Liberating the Astronauts, in April as part of Texas A&M University-Texarkana’s Program for Learning and Community Engagement series.

2001

Justin Buchanan is a vice president and business banking officer for Berkshire Bank in the greater Capital District.

La-Tarri Canty is the associate dean of intercultural engagement at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is completing her doctoral dissertation at Northeastern University.

2004

Christopher Hazeltine completed his master’s and doctorate in educational leadership at New York University and is the founding principal of Cardinal McCloskey Charter School in Bronx, New York.

Patricia Kurz Kolodnicki earned her doctorate in educational leadership from Long Island University in Brookville, New York. Her research focused on secondary educators’ constructs on effective parental involvement.

2005

Anne Clothier '05 '07G, the Brookside Museum director of education, hosted a lecture as part of the Alfred Z. Solomon Charitable Trust Program Series at the Canfield Casino. The title was “Very Grave Indeed,” and the talk was about causes of death, funerals, mourning, and burial practices.

2006

Emily Jane Kellogg '06 '09G finished her doctorate in clinical psychology and started a two-year postdoctoral position in neuropsychology at the Houston Veterans Affairs hospital.

Aaron Lewis is an accounting/business instructor at Mohawk Valley Community College. He has been an adjunct instructor, professional tutor, and test proctor at MVCC since 2013. He also has been the treasurer of Loaves and Fishes Community Outreach Center since 2015.

Amanda Perrine is the director at Maxwell Memorial Library in Camillus, New York.

2007

Miguel Teixeira and his sisters Natasha and Nicole opened their ninth Dunkin’ Donuts in Schenectady, New York.
2009

**Michael Galimo** is the commissioner of elections for the Democratic party on the Oneida County Board of Legislators.

**Stephen Pallas** is pursuing his doctorate in British Romanticism at SUNY Stony Brook and has an article in the *Journal for the Studies of Radicalism*.

2010

**Allen Light** joined Barclay Damon as an associate in the torts and products liability defense and professional liability practice areas.

**Jordan Mierek** released her newest young adult fantasy novel *Secrets of Bennett Hall*. It is a steampunk Gothic romance about a governess and ghosts. Jordan published it under the name Jordan Elizabeth.

U.S. Air Force Airman **Eric Reimers** graduated from basic training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in San Antonio.

2011

**Jillian Sakovits** is the Atlanta United Football Club’s sideline reporter for its locally televised matches on Fox Sports South.

2012

**Melanie Simeone** is the resident dietitian for Fordham University.

2013

**Eric Fortier** plays soccer for the Kingston Stockade Football Club in Kingston, New York.

**Kaitlyn Hensler** was awarded the Certified Fraud Examiner credential by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. She is a senior accountant for Dannible & McKee in Syracuse, New York.

2015

**Nichole Paolino** joined the social media management team at Columbia-Greene Community College. She is also technical assistant to the vice president and an assistant coach of the women’s basketball team.

**Katie Sorce** is a marketing and administrative assistant for the health care marketing agency Smith & Jones.

2017

**Monica Dore** is a conservation land manager for the Lake George Land Conservancy.

**2010s Alumni Spotlight**

The 13th season of Danceworks New York City Project hit the stage on May 12. **Jayson Wright ’09**, **Julianna Butera ’14**, **Sean Abrams ’14**, and **Stephanie Bradshaw ’13** choreographed pieces for the showcase. Dancers included **Amanda Pizzutiello ’13**, **Ana Crivelli ’14**, **Ashleigh Way ’14**, **Brenna Gelb**, **Gabriella Gregoris ’15**, **Heather Miller ’16**, **Kelley Kritz ’11**, and **Lindsey Kendrick ’16**. The company was founded in 2010 to provide a post-grad performance outlet for advanced and technically trained dancers who want to continue choreographing and performing into their adult life.
2004
Rebecca Weiler ’04 and Bret Sohn married on April 14, 2018, at Disney’s Wedding Pavilion in Orlando, Florida.

2006
Casey and Kevin ’05 Collins welcomed Myles James Collins on April 6, 2018. Myles joins his 2-year-old sister McKayla.

Justin Goldstein and Kimberly Delaney ’07 were married in July 2016. They welcomed a son, Emmett Thomas, in April 2018.

Jon Winnicki and Alexandra Winnicki welcomed Charlotte June on May 30, 2018. Big brother Thomas is very proud.

2010
Danielle Heavens-Soda ’10 and her wife, Sarah, welcomed a baby girl on March 29, 2018. Her name is Tess Adelee Heavens-Soda.

Want to Submit a Class Note?:
Email: alumni@oneonta.edu
Mail: Class Notes
Office of Alumni Engagement
SUNY Oneonta
108 Ravine Parkway
Oneonta, NY 13820
Online: oneontaalumni.com. Photos should be the highest resolution you can provide for print.

Casey ’06 and Kevin ’05 Collins with son Myles and daughter McKayla.
1937
Charlotte Hay died on March 20, 2018. A retired teacher since 1973, she was a volunteer at Fox Hospital and a garden club member.

1948
Nancy Simpson Schauss died on March 23, 2018. She was a fifth-grade teacher before starting her family.

1949

1952
Richard Covert died on May 27, 2018. He was a member of the faculty and administration at Queens College of CUNY and stayed involved with the college after retiring in 1992. He was a past member of the College at Oneonta Foundation Board of Directors.

1953
Marion Hinkley died on April 25, 2018. She taught fourth grade at Bell Road School in Rome, New York, for over 30 years.

1960
Robert Kaufman died on February 24, 2018. A retired elementary school teacher, he later started an engine repair service and a plant nursery.

1966
Joyce Haire Foley passed away on February 14, 2018. She taught elementary school in Guilderland, New York, for 34 years.

1970
Ilona Deac passed away on May 2, 2018. Linda Cote Crawley died on February 7, 2018. She was actively involved in numerous town committees and associations in Connecticut.

1971
Linda Eagan died on April 20, 2017. Alumni of Distinction honoree John A. Werner ’75G died on March 2, 2018. An educator best known for his work with his local soccer community, he coached at Castleton University after retiring from the Arlington (Vermont) school district.

1973
Sheamus McGlade died in January 2018. Albert Marchetti died on April 30, 2018. He was the chief financial officer for the Center for International Humanitarian Cooperation.

1977

1978
Shawn Thomas McKenna passed away on March 19, 2018.

1981
Melinda Ackerson died on September 24, 2016.

1987
Alumni of Distinction honoree Robert Fox died on June 24, 2017. He was a producer and director whose early credits included The Real World, The Osbournes, The Daily Show, and Last Comic Standing.

1989
Nancy Iribarren died in May 2018.

1991
Judith Derr ’95G died on March 1, 2018. She worked at Opportunities for Chenango and as a Head Start teacher and administrator.

2000
Bridget Fish-Graves died in June 2017.

2017
Tal Levy passed away on February 24, 2018 in a car accident. He worked for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s New York City chapter. He was an active member of Alpha Epsilon Pi and on the executive board for the Class of 2017.

Faculty and Friends
Nancy Bachman passed away on May 22, 2018. She joined the SUNY Oneonta biology faculty in 1999 and received multiple awards for her research as well as grants from the National Institutes of Health.

Pauline Dudley died on May 11, 2018. She joined the home economics education faculty in 1957 and became that department’s head during her career.

John “Jack” Gardner died February 21, 2018. He spent his career in SUNY Oneonta’s speech and communications department.

Lawrence Heldman died April 23, 2018. He was a full professor at SUNY Oneonta and active in the community as a youth soccer coach, a member and past president of Rotary International, and a board member of Family Services and the Catskill Symphony Orchestra.
Marian Young and brother, Vinny, grew up in Mahopac, New York, with their two other siblings. Their father was a grocery store manager whose salary went to providing a Catholic school education for his kids. When it came to higher education, Marian and Vinny chose SUNY Oneonta and went on to fulfilling careers in STEM fields.

Marian Young ’76

Professional position: Senior investigator at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, where she leads a research team that looks at the function of skeletal tissues.

Residence: Silver Spring, Maryland

Why I chose SUNY Oneonta: Our Dad was a blue-collar worker, and our mom was a homemaker. Our family didn’t have a huge financial income. The state schools provided a really, really great education at a really, really reasonable bargain.

How my SUNY Oneonta education benefited me most: I was a 3-2 engineering major, which meant I received a bachelor’s degree in mathematics after attending SUNY Oneonta and applying one year of Clarkson University’s credits back to the SUNY degree; then I went to Clarkson University for two years and received a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from there.

Why I give back to SUNY Oneonta: I honestly feel like I couldn’t have gotten the position I have here if I hadn’t gone to SUNY Oneonta. I have a job that is exciting and rewarding. I get to travel all over the world. It would have been impossible without SUNY Oneonta. If I can help somebody else along this journey, I will be really happy.

Vinny Young ’80

Professional position: Mechanical engineer supervisor at General Dynamics Electric Boat Corp. in Groton, Connecticut. The company designs and builds nuclear submarines for the U.S. Navy. I retired in May 2018.

Residence: Colchester, Connecticut

Why I chose SUNY Oneonta: When I was in high school, I looked at different SUNY schools. SUNY Oneonta had the biggest appeal because of the size of the town and the great experience my sister had there. I didn’t really know what I wanted to do, and they had a diverse curriculum. I knew there were many options available at Oneonta.

Marian dropped me off at Sherman Hall in her VW Bug on August 24, 1976. It was my 18th birthday, and it started a great experience.

Why I give back to SUNY Oneonta: As a student, I was always disappointed when I’d make friends there and they couldn’t come back to school because of a lack of funding. It would be nice to see that not have to happen to people.

This year, their endowed scholarship, the Dr. Marian Young ’76 and Vincent Young ’80 Scholarship, designated for students with financial need who major in biology or the 3-2 engineering program and have financial need, will help its first students achieve their college goals. The fund will yeild scholarships in perpetuity.

If you would like to endow a scholarship, give to the Fund for Oneonta, or include a gift to the College at Oneonta Foundation in your estate plan, contact the Division of College Advancement at 607-436-2535 or visit Oneonta.edu/give.
To report a name or address change:
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