

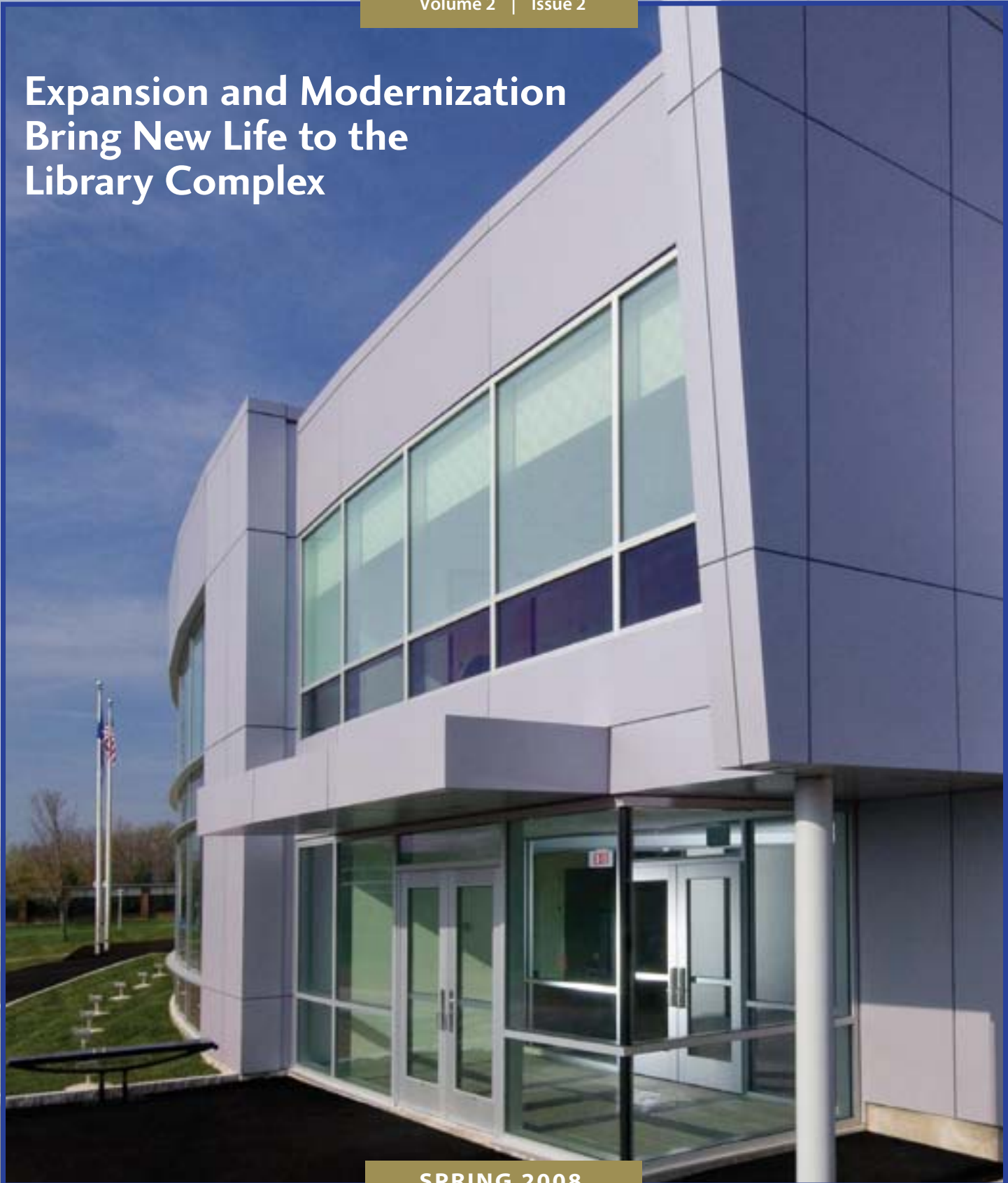
CONNECTIONS

A Magazine for Alumni and Friends of Herkimer County Community College

Volume 2 | Issue 2

Expansion and Modernization Bring New Life to the Library Complex

SPRING 2008



CONNECTIONS

A Magazine for Alumni and Friends
of Herkimer County Community College

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A Year of Change

Cynthia Gabriel '87

This year has been a year of transition and growth for all on campus. With that noted, I send a sincere message of "sayonara" to Dr. Williams. Since it must be so, we must all go forward with our professional lives and continue the legacy that he has established while serving in his position as president of Herkimer County Community College. Change can be frightening for many, yet we know that it is through change and challenges that we grow. I wish Dr. Williams the best of luck in his new journey; retirement, and I would encourage all alumni to reflect on the impact that he has made on your educational opportunities as well. We will miss you, Dr. Williams.

Sayonara: noun: a farewell remark; "they said their good-byes" [syn: {adieu}, {adios}, {arrivederci}, {auf wiedersehen}, {au revoir}, {bye}, {bye-bye}, {cheerio}, {good-by}, {goodbye}, {good-bye}, {goodbye}, {good day}, {so long}] Saying good-bye is never easy, therefore I encourage you to return to our lovely campus anytime you can to revisit your educational foundations, faculty and memories. We recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony for our new library that has been dedicated to Dr. Ronald F. Williams. It is wonderful...not like the library I spent countless hours in back in '85 - '87. I must say, now that I am part of the English faculty, I can truly appreciate a great library renovation!

In addition, the Alumni Association Board of Directors has expanded and we hope to increase the alumni addresses/e-mail contacts in our data base soon. It is never too late to reconnect and update us on your accomplishments, as well as where you are and where you have been, so please keep in touch. Finally, please know that we always recognize and honor an "Alumnus of the Year" at graduation, and we also host an "Alumni Hall of Honor" event every other year. Please do not hesitate to contact us throughout the year with your nominations. I am sure that many of you are worthy of both! Remember, we are all part of a larger "community" at this college and we welcome the opportunity to honor you as our alumni.

In closing, even though there are literal words for "good-bye," there truly are no words that can articulate its impact, or its resonance on the heart. "Sayonara," my president, Dr. Williams. May you have many happy days ahead and may your new journey be one of great joy, compassion, and love.

NOTE:
In the last edition of *Connections Magazine* (Fall 2007), incorrect information appeared related to an article about Commencement 2007. The article misstated factual information about the 2007 Alumnus of the Year, Dr. Betsy Gekonge ('99). The staff of *Connections* sincerely apologizes for the error and shares the following accurate information.

Dr. Gekonge, who is from Kenya, received her Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University.

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Giving to HCCC inside back cover



Library Complex Expansion/Renovation Project

Herkimer County Community College's 6.85 million dollar Library Complex construction project will provide a state-of-the-art educational facility for its students, faculty and staff, as well as for area high school students and community members. The project includes the expansion and modernization of the library, academic support center and bookstore facilities.

The cost of the project is shared equally by the State and the College, bringing almost seven million dollars of new money into Herkimer County. HCCC President Ronald F. Williams said "the construction and renovation has had a significant positive ripple effect on the local

economy through creation of construction-related jobs and purchase of materials from local businesses."

Renovations began in January 2007 with completion in spring 2008.

The library complex project includes the following features/enhancements:

- > new elevators and handicapped accessible entrances and lobby near the parking lot, a “smart” classroom, study and reading areas, computer labs, break-out areas, student common areas, faculty/staff lounge and student club and organization offices;
- > enhanced technology including a video wall and new computers;
- > improved infrastructure for the building including new air handling unit and sprinkler system;
- > an increase in the size of the building by approximately 14,600 square feet, a total of approximately 61,000 square feet; and
- > an emphasis on natural light, with numerous large energy-efficient windows spanning the building.

Director of Library Services Ravil Veli said “we expect to draw more students and faculty to the Library. The renovations will enhance their experience.”

The architect for the project is Joy, McCoola & Zilch, Glens Falls, NY. Construction Management: H.R. Beebe, Utica, NY.



Included in the Library Complex is the College Bookstore and Academic Support Center (formerly the Learning Center). The new bookstore opened recently in an expanded space, allowing for a better traffic flow, with the book section separate from other merchandise. The new arrangement will make it easier to send out books to Internet Academy students. There is also a café with snacks and beverages.

The Academic Support Center includes a private testing suite, multi-use room and additional independent study rooms featuring technology and new furnishings.

Dean of Administration Nicholas Laino said “we are creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere.” He said the layout of the Academic Support Center was driven by the academic staff. “It will help enhance the way we deliver education,” he added.

Library Named for President Williams

A formal dedication ceremony was held May 23, 2008 for the Library Complex, highlighted by the naming of the Ronald F. Williams Library in honor of HCCC’s second president, who served the College from 1986-2008.

A plaque inside the main entrance reads:

“The renovated and expanded library is dedicated to
Ronald F. Williams, Ed.D.

Herkimer County Community College President 1986-2008

A dedicated and distinguished leader and a champion for community colleges statewide, President Williams’ accomplishments and philosophies will continue to provide students with access to quality, affordable learning opportunities; strong academic and athletic programs and services; and a supportive environment that fosters student success.”

Accomplishments of President Ronald F. Williams

Dr. Ronald F. Williams will retire this spring after serving 22 years as the second president of Herkimer County Community College. He was appointed in July 1986, replacing President Robert McLaughlin who retired after serving 20 years as the first president of the College. President Williams was inaugurated in September 1987.



Academic Programs: To keep up with the educational needs of students and employers, the College has added and modified more than 40 academic degree and certificate programs during Dr. Williams’ tenure. Several very successful programs have been introduced in the areas of business, criminal justice, fine arts, education, general studies, physical education, allied health and communications.

Graduation and Faculty/Student Rates: Under Dr. Williams’ leadership, HCCC has maintained one of the highest graduation rates among New York State’s 20 community colleges after two years of study. HCCC also maintains a high full-time faculty to student ratio in comparison to other SUNY community colleges. Dr. Williams has signed more than 11,000 diplomas during his tenure.

Access/Enrollment: President Williams has been committed to creating and maintaining a diverse student body to enrich the HCCC experience for all students, faculty and staff, as well as the community. Since 1986, enrollment has shown consistent growth both on-campus and online.

College Now Program: In 2006, HCCC’s College Now program was accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP), confirming that the program meets rigorous national standards and that the courses in the high schools are the equivalent to those on campus.

Internet Academy: The Internet Academy was launched in 1999 initially offering six complete degrees online. A leader in online learning, HCCC helped train faculty from throughout the state. The Internet Academy’s enrollment quickly exceeded projections, and since its inception, has grown to include 19 two-year degree programs and three one-year certificate programs.

Accreditation: Dr. Williams has led Herkimer County Community College through several Middle States Association reviews and reaccreditations. In 1988, Herkimer County Community College was reaccredited by Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA) for a 10-year



period. In 1998, HCCC was again reaccredited by MSA. In 2003, HCCC's periodic review report was accepted reaffirming accreditation through 2008. The College is currently conducting a self-study evaluation to be completed in 2009 and reaccrediting the College through 2014.

Campus Expansion: President Williams has led several campus construction and renovation projects during his tenure:

1991 A new 33,000 square-foot Technology Center opened providing classroom and laboratory space for study in Criminal Justice, Radio & Television, Computer Science, Computer Assisted Design, Occupational Therapy and Travel & Tourism.

1995 The HCC Foundation donated 97.5 acres to HCCC, at no cost to the College or the County.

1999 A \$9.1 million expansion to the Robert McLaughlin College Center and Physical Education Building was completed. The addition included a corporate training facility later named the Hummel Corporate and Professional Education Center, providing conference space and training programs for the local business community.

2000 The Herkimer County College Foundation acquired privately-owned student housing complexes, Campus Meadows and College Hill. The HCCC Housing Corporation was also formed to handle day-to-day operations and management of the facilities.

2003 Reservoir Run residence halls were completed, making HCCC the largest residential community college in New York State at the time. With the student housing at Reservoir Run, Campus Meadows and College Hill owned by the HCC Foundation and managed by the Herkimer County Community College Housing Corporation, the College was able to provide more services, co-curricular activities and safety/security measures for its resident students.

2005 Construction of Wehrum Stadium was completed. The multi-million dollar athletic facility includes a synthetic grass turf field similar to fields used by the Buffalo Bills, New York Giants and Dallas Cowboys. HCCC was



the first community college in New York State with a synthetic turf field. Along with the completion of Wehrum Stadium came the Herkimer County Veterans Memorial Park and Wall of Honor, located on the HCCC campus at the entrance to the stadium.

2005 The Robert McLaughlin College Center was expanded again, to include additional office space freeing up other areas for faculty and student use.

2007 A \$6.8 million renovation and expansion of the Library Building began with completion in spring 2008.

Other Notable Accomplishments:

> **In 1987**, HCCC won its first National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) national championship title in field hockey under coach Jeanne Galvin. To date, a total of 28 national championships have been won by Herkimer County Community College intercollegiate athletic teams. Additionally, HCCC has earned 25 National Academic Team of the Year awards.

> **In 1993**, Dr. Williams suggested that HCCC host an Independence Day celebration on campus for the community. The annual event has grown significantly in sponsorship, number of people in attendance, and activities and organizations involved.

> **In 1992**, Herkimer County Community College took a lead role in launching the Communities 2000 program to assist local communities in identifying and managing solutions to specific community problems.

> **In January 2004**, HCCC hosted the state's community colleges at a groundbreaking Peace Officer Legislation Conference. President Williams played a key role in making the peace officer legislation a law.

> **In March 2006**, President Williams was honored with the Great Heroes award from the Mohawk Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross for his and the College's support of the Red Cross. Dr. Williams has also been a strong supporter of the American Heart Association and United Way.

Hall of Honor Induction

The Herkimer County Community College Alumni Association inducted two new members into its Alumni Hall of Honor at a ceremony held Friday, April 4 at HCCC. Robert E. Brenchley ('74, Business: Accounting) and Shane Hurlbut ('84, Radio-TV Broadcasting) were inducted for their achievements.

Cynthia Gabriel, Alumni Association President, delivered the welcome. The invocation and benediction were given by Reverend Victor McKusick, First Presbyterian Church, Ilion. HCCC President Ronald F. Williams addressed the group. Honoree introductions were made by Alumni Association Treasurer Harold Hutton and Vice President Timothy Dunn. Plaques recognizing Brenchley and Hurlbut hang in HCCC's Alumni Hall in the McLaughlin College Center.

Robert E. Brenchley Class of 1974 - Business: Accounting

A native of Herkimer, New York, Robert E. Brenchley was educated in Herkimer schools and is a strong supporter of the Mohawk Valley. Following his graduation from HCCC, he attended SUNY Institute of Technology, earning a B.P.S. degree in management.

Currently, Bob is regional president of Adirondack Bank, Mohawk Valley District. He has been employed with Adirondack Bank since 2002. Prior to this, he worked for many years as vice president and manager of Herkimer County Trust Company.

Brenchley's community involvement is evident throughout the area. He serves as president of the Herkimer County College Foundation, and has been a board member since 1997. Bob is also president of Catholic Charities of Herkimer County. He serves on the Herkimer County Youth Bureau Board, and is a member of Herkimer Elks Lodge 1439, holding the distinction of past Elk of the Year. Brenchley is a charter member, past president and life member of MOVAC.

Previously, he was a 28-year member of the Herkimer Fire Department. Bob has served on the board of numerous local organizations including the Valley United Way, Valley Health Services and Mohawk Homestead.



Shane Hurlbut Class of 1984 - Radio-TV Broadcasting

Shane Hurlbut, an award-winning director of photography, pursued a degree in film from Emerson College in Boston. His willingness to get hands-on experience as a technician for commercials and music videos early in his career helped him build important relationships with cinematographers and musicians. Feature work followed, and his professional accomplishments span genres of film.

His contributions to the film industry include comedy, drama, romance, and action thrillers. HBO's award-winning biopic "The Rat Pack," directed by Rob Cohen and starring Ray Liotta, Joe Mantegna and Don Cheadle was Shane's first feature. Shane's creative talents have been sought by actors and directors alike because of his ability to take stories and ideas and bring action-oriented vision to them. In 2004, actor/director Bill Paxton selected Shane to bring the sport of golf to life, which he did in "The Greatest Game Ever Played."

The words, 'critically acclaimed,' often follow descriptions of projects Hurlbut has been involved in, including the romantic drama "Crazy/Beautiful," and the hit film, "Drumline." Shane's recent works include the highly acclaimed sports drama, "We Are Marshall," and "Swing Vote," which is Kevin Costner's next feature scheduled for a fall 2008 release.



Overcoming Obstacles and Enjoying Campus Life

Sydney Astafan '07 and Erin Scala '07, both from Baldwinsville, learned a lot more at HCCC than they could ever have anticipated. Sydney and Erin came to HCCC with all the typical worries of first-year college students, like making friends and finding their way around campus. But for Astafan and Scala, those concerns were more than just typical, as they are both visually impaired.

Describing their initial days at HCCC, Sydney and Erin said they were rough. Astafan said "I freaked out at first, wondering how I'd get around and if I'd make friends, but the living situation was awesome. The women were roommates in the Reservoir Run housing complex where they made great friends and spent a lot of time doing what college students do—hanging out and having fun with friends. "We would work out, watch movies and even go roller blading," said Scala. The pair were also involved with disability activities and helping to recruit prospective students to Herkimer.

One of the reasons they selected HCCC was the availability of disabilities services. "They were really open and ready to discuss accommodations, and the staff was very helpful and knowledgeable," said Scala. The women also found their instructors to be supportive. "We really liked their attitude. They helped us, but they also treated us the same as the other students," said Astafan.

During their first semester, the women enrolled in Cynthia Gabriel's English I class, and they found



Pictured from left are Bonnie Wezalis, Erin Scala, Sydney Astafan and Cynthia Gabriel.

not only a great teacher, but an advocate and lifelong friend. "Miss Gabriel really helped me to network into the student body," said Astafan. They also connected with other faculty and staff, including one special secretary in the Social Science division, Bonnie Wezalis, who 'was like our mom, always there for us.' The women continue to keep in touch with Gabriel, Wezalis and several other HCCC faculty and staff.

Upon graduation, Scala enrolled in a six-month training program at the Colorado Center for the Blind in Denver,

where she took classes in home management, wood shop, technology, Braille, organizational skills and travel, and endured many challenges designed to teach independence such as rock climbing and white water rafting. She completed the program in December, and is now attending SUNY Oswego as a public justice major. "Leaving HCCC was the worst. It felt like leaving a family," said Scala. "When I went to Colorado, I had to meet people all over again." But Scala had no problem with that. She made a lot of friends, was very active and became the student body president. "HCCC helped pave the way and taught me what to expect."

Astafan is currently majoring in psychology at SUNY Brockport. "I made so many connections at Herkimer. It helped me not be afraid. HCCC was small and friendly, and it really prepared me for the academic and social aspect of going to a bigger school."

Scala and Astafan are thankful for their HCCC experiences, in and out of the classroom. As for the future, Scala plans to go into parole or probation work, and is also considering law school. Astafan plans to earn a master's degree and work with the disabled.

Congratulations to Our Newest HCCC Alumni: The Class of '08

On Friday May 16, families, friends, students, faculty and staff gathered for a common purpose at HCCC: to celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2008 and offer best wishes, beginning with an invocation from Rabbi Ellen Brandwein. There were 507 degrees and 17 certificates conferred on the Class of 2008 by President Ronald F. Williams, Dean of Academic Affairs Daniel Murphy and Dean of Students Matthew Hawes.

Again this year, the College provided an opportunity for viewing live streaming video of the ceremony on its website. The simulcast of the ceremony online was particularly useful for the families and friends of international graduates who may not have been able to travel to the U.S. for commencement. This year, graduates hailed from various countries including: the Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, South Korea, Lithuania, Poland, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Vietnam.



The greeting from the Student Government Association was delivered by **Rebecca Neary**, SGA president (Liberal Arts & Sciences: Humanities, '08). The event was presided by Donald J. Snyder ('04), Chairperson of the College's Board of Trustees. Greetings

were delivered by Marc Butler, NYS Assemblyman, 117th District; and Raymond Smith, Chairman, Herkimer County Legislature. The student address, entitled Passion, was given by Cheryllyn Tallman (Travel & Tourism: Hospitality & Events Management, '08). Her inspirational message, which was reflective and thoughtful, encouraged the Class of 2008 to find their passion but also realize commencement is not an ending—instead, it is just the beginning.



President Ronald F. Williams presented two SUNY Chancellor's Awards for Excellence to distinguished members of the College.

Dr. Karen Jones, Instructor, Physical Therapist Assistant



program, received the award for Excellence in Teaching. **Pepe Aragon**, Instructor of Physical Education and men's soccer coach, received the award for Excellence in Faculty Service. Three graduates also received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence, which is given annually to students who excel academically and make a significant contribution to their campus and community. This year's winners were Beau Babcock, a physical therapist assistant

major from Earlville, New York; Stacey Pagano, a business administration major from Seneca Falls, NY and Rebecca Sasenbury, a criminal justice: forensic investigations major from Canastota, NY.



Former HCCC Athletes Score in the Pros

LACROSSE STANDOUT DAN CAREY '04 STARTS FOR WEST ALL-STARS

The National Lacrosse League announced that Colorado Mammoth forward Dan Carey, a 2004 graduate of HCCC, was selected for the starting lineup of the West Division All-Star team. The 2008 NLL All-Star Game was played at Rexall Place in Edmonton, Alberta, on Sunday, March 16. Carey, an All-Star in each of his three seasons in the NLL, made his second consecutive appearance in the starting lineup. Carey was a standout lacrosse player for the Herkimer Generals and helped lead his team to a national championship in 2003.

SOCCER STAR RYAN PIERCE '05 WINS WITH THE BALTIMORE BLAST

Former Herkimer County Community College men's soccer player Ryan Pierce helped lead the Baltimore Blast to win the 2008 Major Indoor Soccer League Championship. The Blast defeated La Raza (Mexico) by a score of 14-11 to win their fourth championship in six years. Pierce also helped lead the Harrisburg City Islanders of the United Soccer League Second Division to a title last summer.

SOCCER STANDOUT DWIGHT BARNETT '05 SCORES FOR THE MONTREAL IMPACT

Dwight Barnett was drafted to play professional soccer for the Montreal Impact of the United Soccer League First Division. He scored his first goal of his professional soccer career in the 83rd minute of a 2-1 victory over Miami FC in April. Barnett dribbled past the goalkeeper and chipped a defender for the game winning goal. "Dwight is a tremendous forward with a gift for scoring," said Generals coach Pepe Aragon. Barnett is Herkimer's first men's soccer player in program history to be drafted in the MLS.

A native of Jamaica, N.Y., Barnett led Herkimer to a 2005 NJCAA national championship, was a two-time NSCAA first team All-American, and was named NSCAA Division III Junior College National Player of the Year. After graduating from Herkimer, Barnett received an athletic scholarship to Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida where he led the Fighting Knights to two consecutive NCAA national tournament appearances and was selected as the Sunshine State Conference Offensive Player of the Year. He was also named a NSCAA third team All-American and a CoSIDA/ESPN the Magazine third team Academic All-American.



Swimming

The men's and women's swim team competed in the 2008 NJCAA Swimming and Diving National Championships in March at Indian River Community College in Fort Pierce, Florida. Kelcy Newman took fifth place in the 100-yard breaststroke and set a new school record. She also took tenth place in the 200-yard breaststroke setting a new school record. Eri Akiyama finished seventh in the 200-yard and 11th in the 400 yard individual medley. Tim Manoogian placed ninth in the 100-yard breaststroke, setting a new school record, and Bryan Koscinski finished 15th in the 200-yard breaststroke. Both Manoogian and Newman won regional titles at the Region III Championships in February.

Pictured from left are Eri Akiyama, Bryan Koscinski, Kelcy Newman, James Wheeler and Timothy Manoogian.



Women's Track and Field

The women's track team won the NJCAA Division III title on May 10 at SUNY Delhi. HCCC's national title was the first for the program. Head coach, Sharon Howell '79 was named Coach of the Meet.

Front row from left: Amanda Davey, Chantal Salamone, Krysta Estey, Sarah Lazarus and Amanda Link.

Back row from left: Assistant Coach Julie Delmedico, Head Coach Sharon Howell, Grace Hall, Bethany Jennings and Theresa Lazarus.

Class of 1974

Ken Hutton, Canandaigua, NY is a retired social studies teacher, and a songwriter/guitarist.

Class of 1975

Mike Brown, Shoreline, MA is a sportscaster for KIRO Radio in Seattle. He has been there for 24 years. Brown also announces play-by-play for University of Washington softball. His wife, April, is a charity auctioneer.

Class of 1976

Barbara Hutchinson Stacy, Nichols, SC graduated from SUC at Plattsburgh in 1978. She taught at Binghamton BOCES then joined the U.S. Navy. She met and married Timothy Stacy in Yokosuka, Japan. Stacy ran several home businesses, home schooled her children and/or taught special education in the public schools throughout her husband's naval career. The couple just celebrated their 25th anniversary.

Their oldest son served in the U.S. Army and is currently in the National Guard, while attending UNC Greensboro. Their daughter is stationed with the Navy in Hawaii. They have one son in high school and two in middle school. Their sixth child (twin to the youngest boy) was killed by a school bus three years ago at the age of eight.

Stacy currently works for the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs in Myrtle Beach, SC as a habilitation specialist. She writes "I was saddened to hear of Coach Jack Alofs' death. He was good man, and I'm reminded of the fun times when I was a cheerleader for his basketball team."

Class of 1978

Becky Weakley Eisenhut, Oriskany, NY earned an A.A.S. in nursing from Mohawk Valley Community College and a B.S. in nursing from SUNYIT. She will graduate with an M.S. in nursing education from SUNYIT in May. A nurse for over 20 years, Eisenhut is employed by the New York State Nurses Association.

Class of 1980

Michael Borowiec, Orchard Park, NY is owner/veterinarian at Furry Friends Small Animal Hospital in Niagara Falls, NY; and Furry Friends Too Pet Supply Center. Married for 17 years, the couple has two daughters. Borowiec still plays ice hockey and would like to hear from other members of his class.

Class of 1983

Walter R. Czuryla, Ocala, FL was chosen to participate in the 2008 New York Mets Fantasy Spring Training, taking place in Port St. Lucie, Florida.

Class of 1984

Mindy Hayes Mackesey, Altamont, NY earned her master of science in education degree from The College of Saint Rose in December 2007.

Class of 1985

Brian Haggerty, Herkimer, NY earned a master of science in education degree from SUC at Oswego, majoring in business and marketing.

Class of 1987

Terri Callahan Sterling, Mohawk, NY earned a B.S. in computer information systems from SUNY Empire State College. Sterling is a computer coordinator for the Fort Plain School District. She married Kevin Sterling in 1991 and the couple has two sons.

Kim Peavey, Westmoreland, NH earned a B.A. in literature from SUC at Potsdam in 1989, an M.A. in literature from Truman State University in Missouri in 1993, and a Master of Divinity degree from Drew University in New Jersey in 1997. She has milked cows and goats; groomed horses; volunteered for hospice and therapeutic riding for the disabled programs; worked as an office manager and proofreader; interned at organic vegetable farms and several churches; and freelanced as a researcher/writer.

In 1999 she married Frank Hunter of Philadelphia. They have one daughter. In 2002, the family bought a 53-acre farm in Southwestern New Hampshire, where they work with draft horses to provide organic vegetables to 60 local families through a community supported agriculture program.

In 2007, Hillside Springs Farm received a \$5000 small business development grant from the National Association for the Self Employed. Peavey and Hunter were subsequently chosen from 34 grant recipients nationwide to receive a \$30,000 Award for Small Business Excellence and Community Contribution. The farm's website is www.hillsidesprings.com. Kim has published several poems and articles and is currently completing a novel.

Todd Forsythe, Wayland, NY is owner of St. George-Stanton Funeral Home. He'd like to hear from Mark Burgwin and Dennis Barry. You can email him at toddforsythe@frontiernet.net.

Class of 1988

Linda Willis Bouck, Fort Plain, NY retired in February 2007 and now has her own gift shop, Willis' Woods—the Cabin in the Woods Gift Place.

Class of 1989

Josette Lino Chmiel, Durham, NC is a small business owner, soon to be certified as a massage and bodywork therapist.

Class of 1992

Carolee Couture Kogut, Clinton, NY is married and has been working at Hamilton College for the past 10 years as assistant to the vice president of facilities and planning. She and her husband Tim built a new home and large pole barn in Clinton three years ago. They have two border collies. She and her husband, a self-employed excavator, take their camper north to Raquette Lake every summer.

Class of 1996

Kristin LiBritz, Ithaca, NY is employer relations coordinator in the Office of Career Services at Ithaca College.

Class of 1999

Heather Wells Albin, Ilion, NY got married in 2003, and the couple had a son born January 24, 2006 and another son born November 3, 2007.

Class of 2000

Rosa DeJohn Bifora, Mohawk, NY retired in January 2008 from Herkimer County where she was employed at The Country Manor as an administrative assistant. She plans to spend time in Florida and St. Lawrence.

Class of 2001

Brian Irizarry, Norwich, CT has been appointed Director of Media Relations & Broadcasting for the Connecticut Defenders professional baseball, the Class AA Eastern League affiliate of the San Francisco Giants. Irizarry will be the lead play-by-play voice for all 142 Defenders games this season. He will also handle all media relations and contribute to the organization's sales efforts. Irizarry earned a bachelor's degree from SUC at Oswego in 2003.



Alumnus of the year Cosimo Tangorra Jr. with Dr. Williams.

The Herkimer County Community College Alumni Association selected Cosimo Tangorra Jr. as the 2008 Alumnus of the Year. A 1990 graduate of HCCC with an associate in arts degree in liberal arts & sciences: social science, Tangorra recently accepted the position of superintendent of the Ilion (NY) Central School District, and will assume that position this August.

Tangorra has served as superintendent of schools for the Trumansburg (NY) Central School District since 2004. In addition to his degree from HCCC, he holds a B.A. in psychology from Siena College, an M.S. in special education from the College of St. Rose, and a certificate of advanced study in educational administration from SUNY Cortland.

Class of 2004

Stephanie Calcara, Whitesboro, NY graduated with an M.S. in leadership instruction for inclusive classrooms from Utica College in May 2007. She is currently employed by the Oriskany Central School District.

Erin White, Orlando, FL graduated from SUC at Oneonta in May 2007. She teaches second grade at Lake George Elementary School, Orlando.

Class of 2006

Ousman Njie, New Hartford, NY is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in human rights and international studies. He writes "I am very pleased to once again thank Herkimer County Community College for the strong foundation given me in my education. This experience will last forever in my mind."

Class of 2007

Sydney Astafan, Brockport, NY is pursuing a bachelor's degree in psychology from SUC at Brockport.

In Memoriam

The Herkimer County Community College Alumni Association extends its sincere sympathy to the families of the following deceased alumni and members of the HCCC family:

Theodore Schiros, Leonardsville, NY, Instructor of Information Science/Computer Network, died in an automobile accident in March 2008. A memorial service was held on campus on March 25 to honor Ted's memory. A beloved teacher, Ted is survived by his four children and his parents.

Allan Knapp, an employee of the HCCC Faculty-Student Association died Tuesday, April 22, 2008. Allan worked in the dining center's Pizza Shop, and took great pride in his work as a part of the HCCC family. He enjoyed the daily contact he had with the students and he will be greatly missed.

ALUMNI UPDATE

RETURN FORM TO: Alumni Association, HCCF, 100 Reservoir Road, Herkimer, NY 13350

NAME: _____ CLASS OF: _____
LAST FIRST MAIDEN

ADDRESS _____

COUNTY _____

PHONE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

EMAIL _____

UPDATE INFORMATION _____

ALUMNI DUES

I would like to join the Alumni Association. My \$25 check (payable to HCCC Alumni Association) is enclosed for a one-year membership; \$250 for a lifetime membership.





Local Scouts work on Merit Badge at HCCC

Boy Scout Troop 1 of Frankfort came to the HCCC chemistry lab to work on their chemistry merit badge. Assistant Professor George Smith acted as the counselor for the merit badge work. Lewis Licari, an alumnus of HCCC (A.A.S., '99), is the Scoutmaster for this troop.

Summer Athletic Camps at HCCC

For more information, visit www.herkimer.edu or contact the Athletic Department at 315-866-0300, ext. 8255.

Baseball

- > **Baseball Academy:** July 7-10
- > **Baseball Hitting Camp:** July 14-17
- > **Baseball Pitching and Fielding Camp:** July 21-24

Basketball

- > **Girls Basketball Camp:** June 23-26 or June 30-July 3
- > **Boys Basketball Camp:** July 28-31

Soccer

- > **Soccer Day Camp for Boys and Girls:** July 7-11
- > **Girls Soccer Camp:** July 28-31

Lacrosse

- > **Boys Lacrosse Camp:** July 14-17
- > **Girls Lacrosse Camp:** July 21-24

FOUNDATION ANNUAL RAFFLE

Proceeds to benefit the works of the Herkimer County College Foundation, Inc., including student scholarships



Grand Prize 2008 Harley-Davidson Road King Custom or \$12,500 CASH

**Tickets are \$10
with only 5,000 tickets
available for sale**

Drawing will be held at the
HCCC Independence Day Celebration
July 3, 2008

Please send _____ tickets @ \$10 each to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Return form with payment to:

Herkimer County College Foundation
100 Reservoir Road
Herkimer, NY 13350

For more information call:
315-866-0300 ext.8459

Giving to Herkimer: TODAY or TOMORROW

The value of a gift to Herkimer is immeasurable. For many students, Herkimer County Community College presents the only affordable option to begin their college careers. Last year, over \$120,000 was awarded in scholarships to HCCC students. Your gift will provide the means to award more scholarships addressing the College's mission of offering access to quality, affordable lifelong learning opportunities.

When making the important decision of how and when to make your gift, there are many choices available to you for

structuring a donation in a manner that will allow for the maximum impact both for your benefit and for the College. Gifts can be made to address important issues that are a priority to the College today or can be arranged to have a lasting impact in years to come.

The following outlines several alternatives available for making a gift to Herkimer. If you need assistance or have any questions, please feel free to contact the College Foundation Office.

TODAY

Cash Gifts

The advantage of this method is that your actual out-of-pocket cost is less than the dollar amount of the gift because of the allowable income tax deduction. You can deduct an amount up to 50% of your adjusted gross income in the year that you make the contribution. Any excess contributions over this percentage may be deducted over the next five years.

The actual savings from the tax deduction of your contribution will vary due to your tax rate and other factors. Generally, the higher your tax rate, the greater your savings.

Gifts of Property

Your gifts of non-cash property such as securities or real estate may provide an ideal way for you to make a contribution. Gifts of this type may be more advantageous than outright cash gifts, because you can make a larger gift at less cost.

- For example:
1. **Property that has risen in value:** Property that has increased in value and that you have held long enough to qualify as long-term property may be beneficial to give. A charitable gift of this type entitles you to two benefits: (1) you avoid paying capital gains tax; and (2) you receive a deduction for the full value of the gift, in most cases.
 2. **Property that has decreased in value:** If you have property that has decreased in value at the time you are ready to make your gift, you should consider selling that property first and then contributing the proceeds to the College. This will allow you to receive the deductions for both the capital loss and the charitable gift.

Gifts of Personal Property

Works of art, books and furnishings are considered gifts of personal property. Your deduction will depend on appraised value and how the gift will be used by the College.

Your Will

One way to make a deferred gift is to include specific language in your will, naming the College as the recipient of your planned gift. Your will can include gifts in the form of:

- property such as cash, securities and personal property
- a percentage of your Estate; and/or
- the residue of your Estate (property remaining after other bequests have been filled)

Your estate is allowed an unlimited deduction for cash and other property that you can leave to the College.

Gifts of Insurance

Life insurance provides a very effective way to benefit the College:

- A gift of life insurance provides the College with a substantial deferred gift while you pay relatively modest premium payments.
- This type of gift will not be delayed during the administration process of your Estate and proceeds from the policy can be paid promptly to the College.

Deferred Gifts

In some instances, you can actually place an amount in a qualifying Trust, which will provide income to you (and your spouse) for life, and then have a principal paid out to the College upon your demise or on a specified date. These Charitable Remainder Trusts assure you of income, while providing an immediate charitable reduction to you for the remainder interest which will someday be paid to the College.

TOMORROW

ROBERT H. WOOD

Great Artists
SERIES



presents:

PACIFICA QUARTET

Please join us on
Saturday, November 1, 2008
at 8:00 pm

for the next concert in the Robert H. Wood Great Artists Series.

Tickets go on sale September 2008. Call (315) 866-0300, ext. 8700



Alumni Association
Herkimer County College Foundation
100 Reservoir Road
Herkimer, NY 13350

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