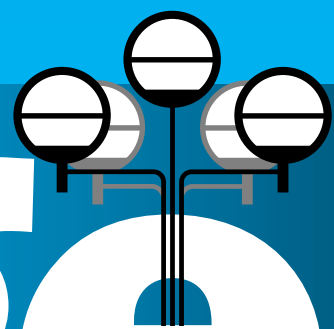


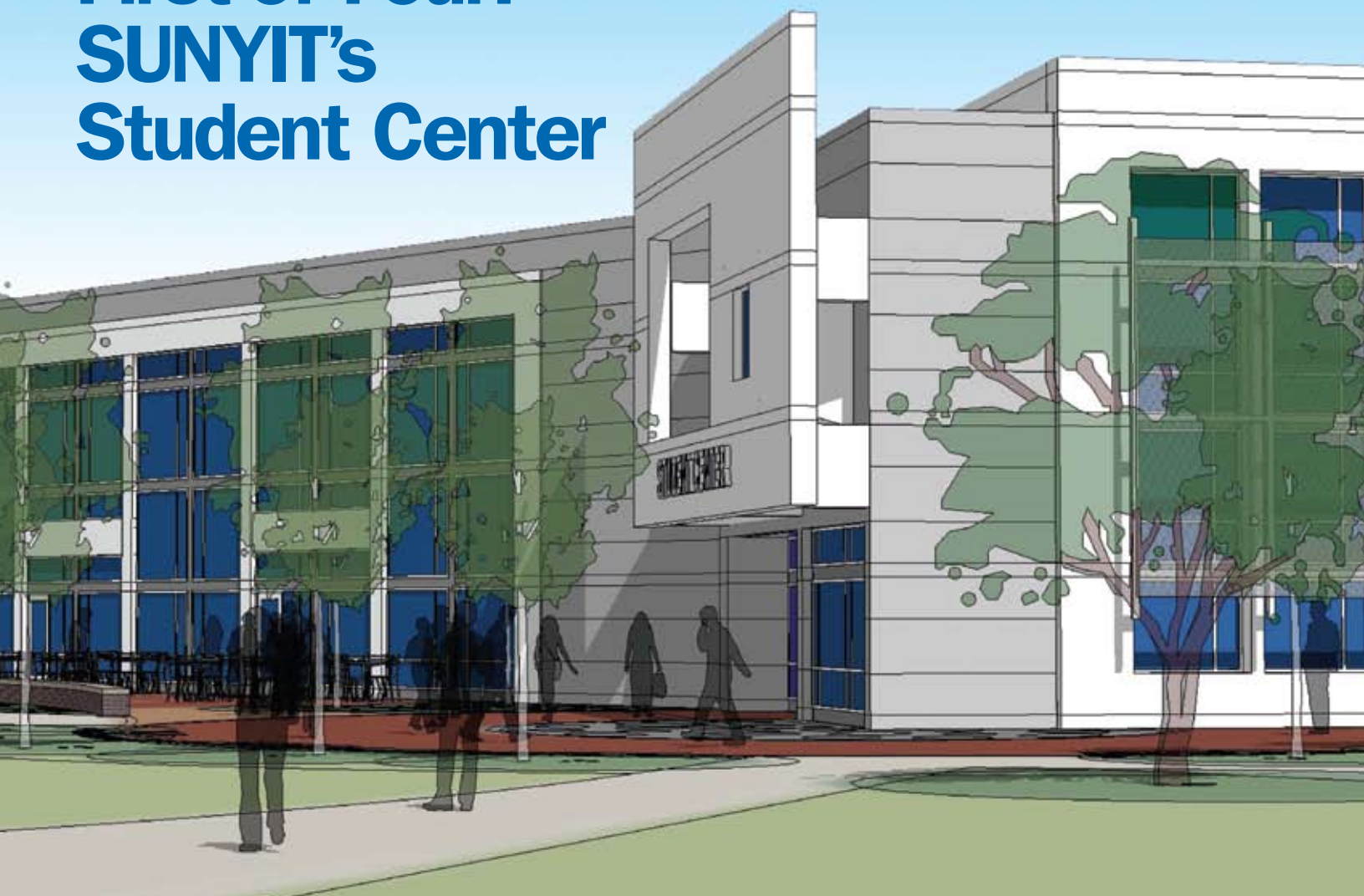
# the Bridge

A Magazine for SUNYIT Alumni, Faculty, Friends & Students

Spring 2009



## First of Four: SUNYIT's Student Center



**Amazon  
Adventure**



**SUNYIT &  
AACSB**



**Wildcat  
Champions**



# The Bridge

Spring 2009

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

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**Call: 1 (866) 2 SUNYIT**  
E-mail: [admissions@sunyit.edu](mailto:admissions@sunyit.edu)

**Parents:** If this issue is addressed to your son or daughter who no longer maintains an address at your home, please send a current address to the Alumni Office, SUNYIT, P.O. Box 3050, Utica, New York 13504-3050.

*This publication is printed on recycled paper.*



# Welcome!

## On the cover:

**First of Four:** An architect's view of SUNYIT's Student Center, the first of four funded buildings the campus will see constructed over the next few years.



More than 225 undergraduate and graduate degrees were awarded at SUNYIT's fall Commencement, December 13, 2008, in the Campus Center. Photos of the ceremony are available online: [www.sunyit.edu/commencement](http://www.sunyit.edu/commencement). Spring Commencement will be held May 9, 2009, at the Utica Memorial Auditorium.

**Great  
Success  
Begins  
at SUNYIT!**



# Breaking New Ground

Ceremony marks the beginning for the first of four new buildings

3



5

# SUNYIT & AACSB

International accreditation



# Amazon Adventure

Nursing faculty and students make a difference in Brazil

8



# Class Notes

12

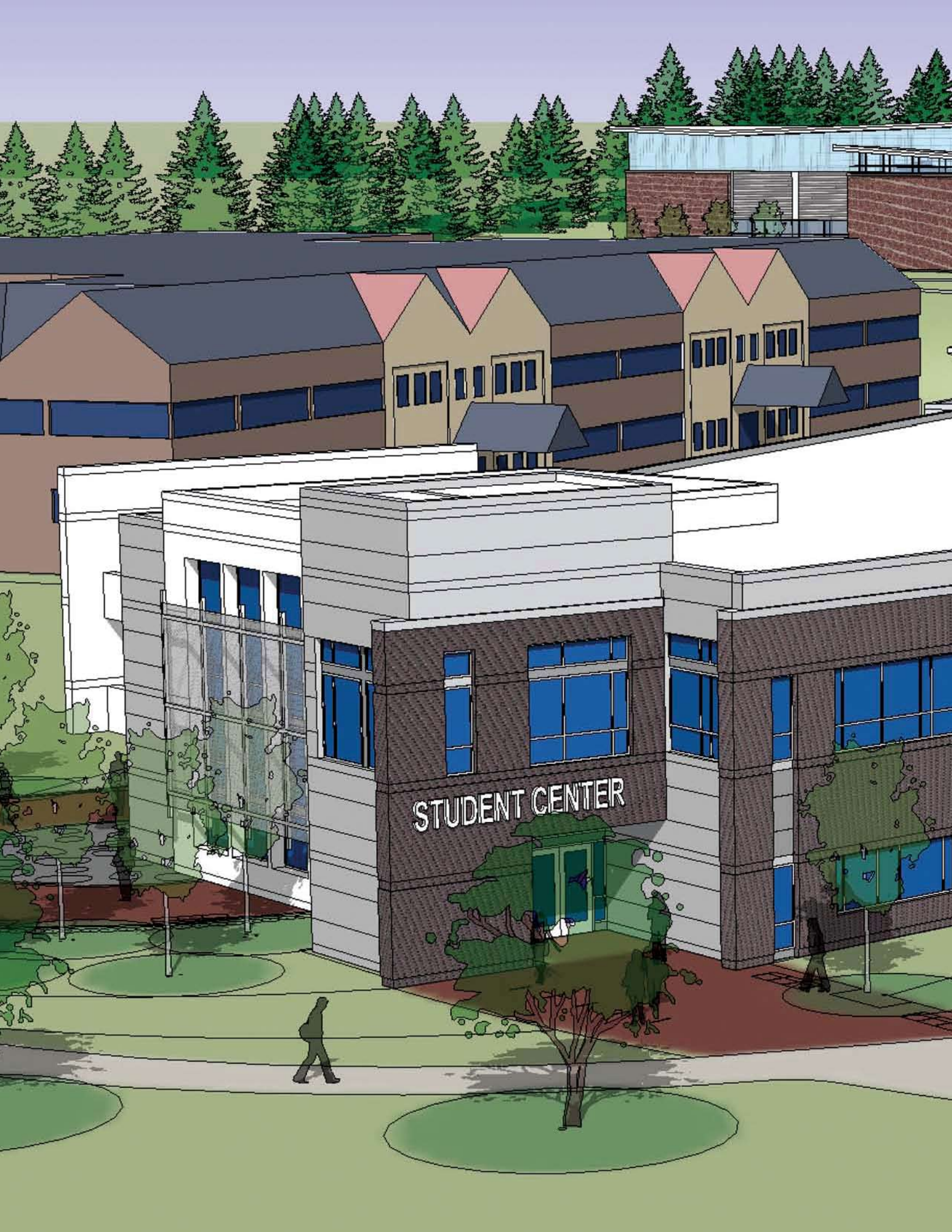


# Wildcat Champions

Women's volleyball team scores a first

16





STUDENT CENTER

# SUNYIT Breaks Ground for \$13.6 Million Student Center

## First of four new buildings planned for campus

State legislators and other dignitaries joined faculty, staff and students October 23, 2008, in breaking ground for SUNYIT's \$13.6 million student center, the first of four major building projects planned on its campus in Marcy.

NYS Senator Joseph Griffo, Assemblywoman RoAnn Destito, Oneida County Executive Anthony Picente and other dignitaries joined SUNYIT President Wolf Yeigh at the event.

"We're pleased that our elected officials and friends are here to celebrate another step forward for SUNYIT," Yeigh said. "We thank you for your support."

"It's fitting that the first one we break ground on is the student center – we're putting students first," Yeigh said.

"The future of SUNYIT is very bright... investing in education and our young people is very important," Destito said. "I believe that SUNYIT will be a spotlight on our future economic development in this area."

"We've seen great growth at this campus and there's such tremendous capacity for future growth here," Griffo said. "The investment we make here is an investment in our regional economy."

Officials said investment in infrastructure at the area's four-year public college is critically important for future regional workforce development, especially given the current state of the economy. They also said money for capital projects such as the student center is approved separately from operating budgets for SUNY campuses, and capital money cannot be spent for other purposes. Funding for the student center was authorized in the state's 2005-06 capital budget.

Yeigh echoed SUNY Board of Trustees chair Carl Hayden, who told those gathered at a Rockefeller Institute conference that New York State needs the economic diversification that will come from investing in public higher education.

"As Chairman Hayden said recently, 'The future belongs to those who create, nurture and commercialize intellectual capital,'" Yeigh told the gathering. "SUNYIT's continued development – new buildings, new academic

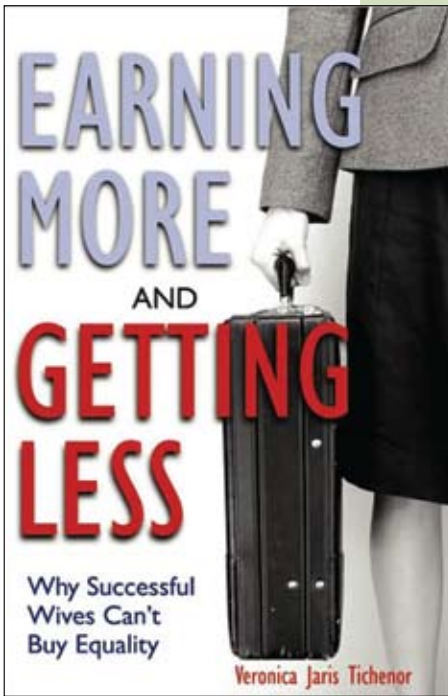


programs, new partnerships – will benefit our current and future students as we support the economic development of the entire region."

The campus is also planning a \$20 million field house, a \$27.5 million advanced technology center, and a \$23.5 million residence hall. Actual construction of the student center will begin in 2009. ■



## Book Featured on CNN.com



SUNYIT faculty member Veronica Tichenor's book, *Earning More and Getting Less: Why Successful Wives Can't Buy Equality*, was featured recently in a CNN.com report entitled "When she earns more than he does."

Tichenor's book looks at the power dynamics in marriages where wives earn substantially more than their husbands. An excerpt from the CNN.com feature:

"They're struggling against the reality that she's earning more, but sometimes both of them – the husband and the wife – feel like the man should be the one who's earning more. It's hard to let go of that expectation," says Veronica Tichenor. "Moreover, financial superiority may not afford women power, as it generally does for men. When a man is financially responsible for a family's well being, it usually 'buys' him out of household chores, according to Tichenor's research. He also tends to control the purse strings and be the decision

maker. However, the same standards don't apply when women are the primary earners. In fact, breadwinning wives actively uphold traditional familial roles by still doing more housework and deferring financial control to their husbands, Tichenor says. ■

Tichenor was also quoted in a September 15, 2008, *Washington Times* article headlined "Palin's 'Mr. Mom' a secret weapon? Appeal seen to blue-collar vote," and her book was previously featured in the *National Post*, a Canadian national newspaper.

### Links:

<http://www.cnn.com/2008/LIVING/personal/09/05/tw.money.trap/index.html>

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2008/sep/15/palins-mr-mom-a-secret-weapon/>

<http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu/tichenor>



Veronica Tichenor



Steve Schneider

## Schneider Book Wins "Best Political Communication" Award

*Web Campaigning*, co-authored by Steve Schneider, professor and interim dean of the School of Arts & Sciences, and Professor Kirsten Foot of the University of Washington, has been selected as the winner of the Doris Graber Best Book Award by the Political Communication Section of the American Political Science Association. The award is given to "the best book published on political communication in the last ten years."

Published by MIT Press, *Web Campaigning* documents the dramatic expansion of the use of the Web in U.S. political campaigns over the course of the last several election seasons, and examines the evolution of campaigns' Web practices, based on analysis of hundreds of campaign Web sites produced by a range of political actors during the U.S. elections of 2000, 2002, and 2004.

A member of the faculty since 1991, Schneider earned a master of arts degree in communication from the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School of Communication, and a Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he studied American politics and communication technology. More information on *Web Campaigning* is available at: [mitpress.mit.edu/webcampaigning](http://mitpress.mit.edu/webcampaigning). ■



# SUNYIT Accredited by AACSB

## Distinction achieved by select colleges world-wide

AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business has formally approved AACSB accreditation for SUNYIT.

“This is a major accomplishment for our School of Business faculty and for all those who contributed to our successful candidacy,” said Wolf Yeigh, president of SUNYIT. “My congratulations and thanks to Stephen Havlovic, our business dean, and all those who worked long and hard to achieve this goal.”

Havlovic said AACSB accreditation is a distinction awarded to a select number of colleges and universities. “Less than five percent of the world’s business schools have achieved this elite distinction – and only about 400 of the 3,000 schools of business in the U.S.,” he said. “AACSB accreditation shows our students, prospective students and other stakeholders that the quality of our business programs is internationally recognized.”

AACSB International is the premier accrediting agency of collegiate business schools and accounting programs worldwide. AACSB International accreditation, a specialized, non-governmental review process, takes place over a period of at least five years. Accreditation represents the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide. Institutions that earn accreditation confirm their commitment to quality and continuous improvement through a rigorous and comprehensive peer review.

According to AACSB, its accreditation means business schools provide stakeholders with the assurance that they guide educational delivery by a carefully constructed mission, select and support students to produce



outstanding graduates, deliver degree programs with qualified faculty, structure learning through relevant curricula, and contribute to knowledge through research and scholarship.

SUNYIT’s School of Business offers undergraduate degrees in accounting, business, finance, and health services management. Graduate programs offered are: MBA in health services management, MBA in technology management, M.S. in accountancy, M.S. in health services administration. All graduate programs and the bachelor’s program in health services management are also available online. ■



## Faculty, Students Discuss Economic Crisis

Students and faculty in the School of Business presented a program in December examining the global economic situation.

Sponsored by the student accounting club, “The Origins and Implications of the Current Financial Crisis” featured two members of the SUNYIT School of Business faculty: Imtiaz Mazumder, assistant professor of finance, and Robert Orilio, associate professor of finance; and Gregory Morra, a financial advisor with Ameriprise Financial.

The event attracted coverage from area media, including WIBX radio and the *Observer-Dispatch*. ■



SUNYIT in the City, an event for alumni, students, prospective students, and business contacts, was held in Manhattan on December 18, 2008, sponsored by SUNYIT Admissions, Alumni Association, Athletics, and Career Services, with SUNYIT President Wolf Yeigh (far right). The other SUNYIT representatives attending were (left to right) Assistant Athletics Director Kevin Edick, Director of Admissions Jennifer Phelan Ninh '07, Athletics Director Kevin Grimmer, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management Marybeth Lyons '94, Director of Career Services & Student Transitions Peter Perkins, and (not shown) Alumni Officer Brenda Dow.

Chain-saw artist and SUNYIT parent Mark Tyoe created a new Wildcat statue right before the eyes of students and parents during Fall Fest/Parent Weekend 2008. The four-hour, live-action event was sponsored by SUNYIT's Cultural & Performing Arts Committee on September 27, 2008.



## SUNYIT in the City



SUNYIT's Alumni Association hosted the Alumni Association and Wildcat Hall of Fame Awards on September 26, 2008. Alumni Officer Brenda Dow presents the work of Jeffrey Ledda '87 (Electrical Engineering Technology), who was honored with the Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award for his work on the Academy-Award winning movie "Titanic" and the salvage of the H.L. Hunley, a Confederate submarine that had been underwater more than a century. The Alumni Association also presented awards to Charles Green '93 (Computer Science), the late Robert Ingalls '77 (Criminal Justice), Leonard Popyack, Jr. '84 (Electrical Engineering Technology), James Silva '05 '07 (Computer Science), and Ron Sarner, who received the Alumni Association Faculty Award. The Athletics Department honored new Wildcat Hall of Fame inductees Tom McLaughlin '02, Baseball (Business Public Management) and Jason Longo '03, Baseball (Business Public Management). For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).

The Alumni Association's SUNYIT Night at Lava, held January 24, 2009, for alumni and students age 21 and older, drew 113 attendees from the Mohawk Valley, Syracuse, Cortland, Binghamton, and New Jersey to the Verona, N.Y., hot-spot. The event capped off Geek Week 2009 by celebrating the latest in sound and lighting technology. Among those enjoying an evening at the upscale, Vegas-style dance club were (left to right) Alumni Officer Brenda Dow, Nihar Gawade '08, Edward Benn '10, and Tyler Mitchell '08.





# SUNYIT Events

Fall Fest

Fall Fest/Parent Weekend 2008 activities included Madagascar Hissing Cockroach Races sponsored by the Biology Department and Alumni Association. Assistant Professor of Biology Laura Weiser-Erlandson (far right) who maintains the exotic creatures in her lab, instructs jockeys Kyle Winton '10 (center) and the SUNYIT mascot regarding how to use straws to encourage the insects to move toward the finish line.



Winners of the Fall Fest/Parent Weekend 2008 Casino Night took home gift certificates totaling \$1,500, courtesy of the Alumni Association, which co-sponsored the event with CAB (Campus Activities Board) on September 27, 2008. Student, alumni, and faculty/staff volunteers worked the tables, including SUNYIT's new President Wolf Yeigh.



Capture the Flag, a live-action role-playing event, was held January 19, 2009, outside of SUNYIT's Alumni Pavilion. The outdoor game and a Spider-Man movie marathon comprised the first day of Geek Week 2009, six days of activities sponsored by the Alumni Association and Student Association for students, alumni, and faculty/staff to kick off the spring semester and celebrate various aspects of science, technology, and "geek culture" that educate, enlighten, or entertain.



Zack Hoffmann '08 '09, co-chair of Geek Week 2009, is doused with goopy string by the winners of the Geek Olympics competition on January 24, 2009, sponsored by the Alumni Association and Student Association. Competitors had to demonstrate their Spider-Man "web-slinging" skills by using the goopy string to knock over bottles at one of the six stations comprising the Olympic obstacle course. Other stations included "The Matrix" limbo, mathematical calculations, chugging a high-energy beverage of their choice, electronic racing, and connecting computer-gaming cables.



# Amazon adventure

**SUNYIT nursing faculty, students make a difference in Brazil**



Nursing students Laura Sullivan and Larissa Graziano in one of the villages the team visited.



Assistant professor of nursing Pat Zawko '99 '00 with a patient.

**“The goal was not to impose our culture, but to understand another culture and to help them to be healthy within their own culture.”** – Pat Zawko '99 '00, Assistant Professor of Nursing

From an outreach to those in need in a remote region to proposed partnerships with institutions in Brazilian cities, SUNYIT faculty and students are making connections between the classroom and the world community.

In March 2008, a team of Mohawk Valley health care professionals and students ventured up the Amazon River on a mission of mercy. Participants included Esther Bankert, dean of SUNYIT's School of Nursing & Health Systems, four members of the nursing faculty, and 15 SUNYIT nursing students.

Pat Zawko '99 '00, assistant professor of nursing, had wanted to take students to Brazil ever since she went as a graduate student six years ago.

Zawko contacted AMAS, a Brazilian social service agency, which partners with the United Methodist Church and World Vision, another humanitarian organization. The three organizations took care of all the logistics for the trip, but students and faculty still had their work cut out for them: vaccinations, passports, visas, weekly meetings to study Brazilian culture, and fundraising: students chipped in \$1,800 each for travel and sold candy, held a pancake breakfast, and accepted donations from supporters.

“The goal was not to impose our culture, but to understand another culture and to help them

to be healthy within their own culture,” Zawko said. The trip, which occurred over the March spring break, was a success: The group visited remote villages reachable only by boat, treating and providing health education to some 1,000 villagers.

Even before the trip was over, participants were talking about next steps – and a second team returned to the region in December 2008-January 2009.

In August 2008, a group of faculty and students traveled to Brazil to further explore a range of potential partnerships and opportunities for SUNYIT students, faculty and staff. The group visited three universities, and two SUNYIT nursing students did volunteer work in an orphanage for children with AIDS.

“We wanted to establish connections at the universities, and explore opportunities for collaboration, research and other partnerships for students and faculty,” said Bankert. “There was a very high level of interest expressed by each of the universities we visited, especially for potential distance learning collaboration.”

Bankert and others who visited Brazil in August said they were looking for connections with the three institutions in programs such as nursing, psychology, sociology, criminal justice and engineering.

“Several collaborative research projects have already emerged,” said Joanne Joseph,

*continued on p. 10*

# Brazil

associate professor of psychology. “Psychology and nursing faculty are working together to examine such topics as ‘Adverse Childhood Experiences’ – ACE – and their later effects on fibromyalgia and complications in teenage pregnancy.”

Joseph said one of the three universities has invited SUNYIT faculty to present their research at an upcoming international conference in health psychology and to publish findings in a Brazilian academic journal.

A number of academic exchanges between SUNYIT and the Brazilian institutions were discussed, Bankert said:

- Faculty exchange of 1-2 weeks for meetings, discussion of collaboration, exploration of research ideas
- Student exchange of two weeks for students from SUNYIT and Brazilian partner institutions to trade places and earn one credit hour for the experience
- Distance learning possibilities in a number of areas, including Portuguese language classes

Bankert and others involved in what they describe as a five-year project say the outreach is a concrete demonstration of how students and faculty can turn experiences outside the classroom into true “community-based learning,” in which learning and teaching lead to intellectual development and personal growth for participants – and service for those who need it, whether their community is across town or on another continent. ■

*From the top: nursing student Amy Bankert and three friends; SUNYIT students and faculty with some of the villagers they encountered; the team’s main mode of transportation; nursing student Alyssa Corteaux and several watchful patients.*



# Images from India

A graduate student pursuing a master's degree at SUNYIT has found an outlet for his love of travel and photography.

Guaruv W. Patwardhan of Pune, Maharashtra, India, is studying computer science in the School of Information Systems & Engineering Technology after obtaining a bachelor's degree in electronics at Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Technology. And although his career goals are primarily in computer science, his work from a summer visit to India was the subject of a solo show in SUNYIT's Gannett Art Gallery in fall 2008.

"Our involvement is not just confined to providing an expansive, meaningful academic experience for our students," said Sam Sengupta, professor of computer science at SUNYIT, "but also to encourage them to forge their own identity by exploring

non-academic dimensions in which they celebrate life in all majestic hues."

More than 50 of Patwardhan's photographs exploring the natural beauty of India were viewed by gallery visitors during the month-long exhibit, which concluded with a reception for students, faculty and staff.

"We are always pleased to exhibit the works of students," said Connie Castellano '08, gallery director. "Guaruv wanted to share his love of travel and photography with others on our campus."

The only institute of technology in the State University of New York system, SUNYIT has been a favorite choice for international

students for many years. In addition to bachelor's and master's degree programs in computer and information science and a bachelor's program in computer information systems, SUNYIT's School of Information Systems and Engineering Technology offers bachelor's degree programs in civil, computer, electrical, industrial, and mechanical engineering technology; telecommunications; a jointly-registered program in electrical engineering with Binghamton University; and master's degree programs in telecommunications and advanced technology. ■



# Class Notes



**Leonard Popyack Jr. '84**, Co-founder, Co-owner, and Chief Scientist of Assured Information Security, Inc. ([www.ainfosec.com](http://www.ainfosec.com)), recognized by *Inc. Magazine* in 2007 and 2008 as one of the fastest-growing companies in the United States, was presented with the SUNYIT Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Award on September 27, 2008. Popyack and **Charles Green '93** started the company in a garage in June 2001. For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).

**Charles Green '93**, Co-founder, Co-owner, and President of Assured Information Security, Inc. ([www.ainfosec.com](http://www.ainfosec.com)), recognized by *Inc. Magazine* in 2007 and 2008 as one of the fastest-growing companies in the United States, was presented with the SUNYIT Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Award on September 27, 2008. Green and **Leonard Popyack Jr. '84** started the company in a garage in June 2001. For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).



**James E. Silva '05 '07**, indie game designer and winner of Microsoft's Dream-Build-Play international game-design contest with his creation titled "The Dishwasher: Dead Samurai," was presented with the SUNYIT Alumni Association's Young Alumni Award on September 27, 2008. Silva has been featured in the national press and has shared his experiences with aspiring game designers at two special SUNYIT lectures and in his new book, titled "Building XNA 2.0 Games: A Practical Guide for Independent Game Development." For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).



**Nicole Watson '83**, an Emmy-award winning producer and nationally known broadcaster and sports journalist residing in Atlanta, Ga., was the featured speaker at the community-wide Corporate Breakfast sponsored by the SUNYIT Alumni Association in February 2008, jointly celebrating Black History Month and Women's History Month. While on campus, she also held an open forum with SUNYIT students to provide them with career advice. In July 2008, Watson was inducted in the Rome, N.Y., Sports Hall of Fame. For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).



## Alumni eNews Class Notes

Updates on alumni received through February 6, 2009, were posted online on the dates following their names; to access the edition of Alumni eNews containing these Class Notes, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).

**Submitting to Class Notes:** Alumni should submit updates and press releases via e-mail to [alumni@sunyit.edu](mailto:alumni@sunyit.edu) and be sure to include their full name at the time they were enrolled, and if possible, also include their nine-digit U-number or the last four digits of their Social Security number.

### 1970s

**Deborah Tyksinski '75**,  
Human Services (11/13/08)

**Dr. Patricia "Patsy" Smyth '76**,  
Nursing (11/13/08)

**Paul Steiner '76**,  
Business/Public Management (02/06/09)

**Jeffrey B. Andrus '77**,  
Business/Public Management (11/13/08)

**Robert Ingalls '77** (deceased),  
Criminal Justice (11/13/08)

**Jennifer Asker '78**,  
Criminal Justice (11/13/08)

**Mark Fairbrother '78**,  
Criminal Justice (11/13/08)

**Gary Cuda '79**,  
Social Science (11/13/08)

**Richard A. Hooker '79**,  
Electrical Engineering Technology (02/06/09)

**John La Vallee '79**,  
Business/Public Management (02/06/09, 11/13/08)

**Scott H. Perra '79**,  
Health Services Management  
(02/06/09)

**Janice "Jan" Welker '79**,  
Nursing (11/13/08)

### 1980s

**Josephine "Jo" Ruffrage '80**,  
Nursing (11/13/08)

**Judith L. Webb '80**,  
MS Adult Nurse Practitioner (11/13/08)

**Mary-Ann M. (Nowak) Boyce '81**,  
Computer/Information Science (02/06/09)

**Elizabeth "Betsy" Briggs '81**,  
Human Services (11/13/08)

**Robert F. Manfredo '81**,  
Business/Public Management  
(11/13/08)

**Deborah A. Hayes '82**,  
Nursing (11/13/08)

**Linda Kokoszki '82**,  
Nursing (11/13/08)

**Phyllis Dontino Ellis '83,**  
Nursing (11/13/08)

**Nicole Watson '83,**  
Business/Public Management  
(11/13/08)

**Dr. Leonard Popyack Jr. '84,**  
Electrical Engineering Technology  
(11/13/08)

**Jeffrey Ledda '87,**  
Electrical Engineering Technology (11/13/08)

**Eileen M. Pronobis '87,**  
Finance (11/13/08)

**Sharlene Bowen '88,**  
Business/Public Management (11/13/08)

**Ilka Chavez '88,**  
Health Services Management (11/13/08)

#### **1990s**

**Angela M. Belmont '90,**  
Nursing (11/12/08)

**Scott V. Miller '90,**  
Computer/Information Science  
(11/12/08)

**Kathleen A. Burns '91,**  
Business/Public Management (11/12/08)

**Scott R. Campbell '91,**  
Business/Public Management (11/12/08)

**Kimberly S. Hatzinger '91,**  
Accounting (11/12/08)

**James B. Rafferty '91,**  
Telecommunications (11/12/08)

**John Rossi '91,**  
Psychology (11/12/08)

**Glenn Allen '92,**  
Computer/Information Science (11/12/08)

**Kathleen (McGregor) Rafferty '92,**  
Psychology (11/12/08)

**David D. Baker '93,**  
Mechanical Engineering Technology (11/12/08)

**Charles Green '93,**  
Computer Science (11/12/08)

**Elizabeth "Beth" Tolman '93 '07,**  
Computer Information Systems,  
MS Computer/Information Science (11/12/08)

**Eve Carricato-Cullinan '94,**  
Health Services Management (11/12/08)

**Marybeth Lyons '94,**  
MS Business Management (11/12/08)

**Carlos Vargas '94,**  
Mechanical Engineering Technology (02/06/09)

**John P. Podmaysky III '95 (deceased),**  
Electrical Engineering Technology (11/12/08)

**Jeffrey S. Pyle '95,**  
Electrical Engineering Technology (11/12/08)

**Fred "Fritz" Scherz Jr. '95 '98,**  
Business/Public Management,  
MS Business Management (02/06/09, 11/12/09)

**Scott Robert Toukatly '95,**  
Mechanical Engineering Technology (11/12/08)

**Jennifer (Bennett) Hann '97,**  
Business Public Management (11/12/08)

**Jeanine Usiak-Thompson '97,**  
Business/Public Management (11/12/08)

**Anita L. Brown '98,**  
Business/Public Management (11/12/08)



**Anita L. Brown '98 '08,** who serves on SUNYIT's Alumni Association Advisory Board, was promoted at Indium Corporation ([www.indium.com](http://www.indium.com)) to Marketing Communications Manager for its worldwide operations, based at Indium's global headquarters in Clinton, N.Y. Since joining Indium in 2004, Brown is credited with helping establish many new processes and best-practice procedures, and in her new position, she is responsible for making Indium's marketing communications resources even more effective and efficient. For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).

**Robert F. Manfredo '81** was promoted in summer 2008 to Vice President at the Utica Mutual Insurance Company, principal member of the Utica National Insurance Group ([www.uticanational.com](http://www.uticanational.com)), of New Hartford, N.Y. Manfredo joined the company in 1981 and has held increasingly responsible positions, including his appointment as Assistant Secretary in 2003 and promotion to Assistant Vice President the following year. For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).

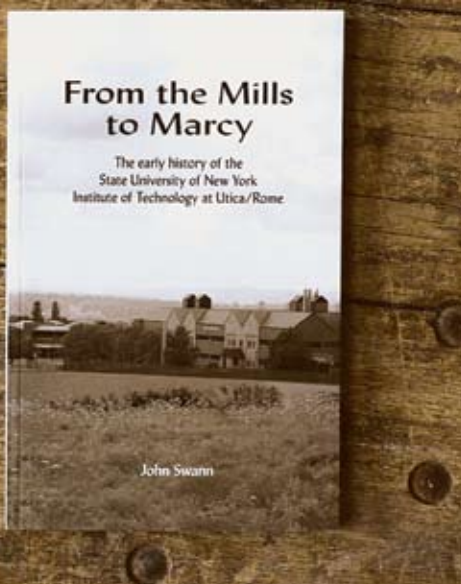


**Robert V. Rose '99,** RN, MSN, CNA-BC, who joined Bristol Hospital ([www.bristolhospital.org](http://www.bristolhospital.org)) in Bristol, Conn., in February 2007 and now serves as Senior Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer, has been elected to the American Organization of Nurse Executives' (AONE) 2009 Board of Directors representing New England. Rose joins five other new board members from around the country and will represent New England (Region 1) during his two-year term. For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).



**Scott H. Perra '79,** FACHE, was named President and Chief Executive Officer of Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare ([www.mvnhealth.com](http://www.mvnhealth.com)) in Utica, N.Y. He joined St. Luke's-Memorial Hospital Center in 1985, becoming its Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer in 1989 and continuing in that role through the Faxton Hospital and St. Luke's-Memorial Hospital Center consolidation. Perra earned his appointment as a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE) in 2000, has served on the Regents Advisory Council since 2002, and is a member of SUNYIT's Professional Advisory Committee for the Health Services Management Program. For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).





**John Swann '02**, Director of Public Relations and Communications at SUNYIT, was honored with a Gold Hermes Award from the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals for his book, titled *From the Mills to Marcy*, which is the first published history of SUNYIT. The book is available for purchase through The Bookmark ([www.sunyit.edu/bookstore](http://www.sunyit.edu/bookstore)). For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).

**Scott V. Miller '90**, Associate Director of Information Technology Services and Campus Network Engineer at SUNYIT, was nominated to and now serves as a member of the Cisco Mobility Higher Education Technical Advisory Board (TAB). This invitation-only board brings together 25 chief information officers and IT directors from higher education institutions in the United States and Canada. For details, go to [www.sunyit.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyit.edu/alumni).



**Theresa Synakowski '98**,  
Business/Public Management (11/12/08)  
**Teresa Washburn '98 '06**,  
Professional & Technical Communication,  
MS Information Design & Technology (11/12/08)  
**John Pierczynski II '99** (deceased),  
Sociology (02/06/09)  
**Robert V. Rose '99**,  
Nursing (11/12/08)

#### 2000s

**Heather F. (Mundy) Burgdoff '00**,  
Accounting (11/12/08)  
**Keith Johnson '00**,  
Psychology (11/12/08)  
**Gerald "Jerry" Morton '00**,  
Sociology (11/12/08)  
**Michael Phillips '00**,  
Accounting (02/06/09)  
**Jon-Paul Kidwell '01**,  
Health Services Management (11/12/08)  
**Crystal Pogorzelski '01**,  
Computer/Information Science (11/12/08)  
**Stephen Puppek '01**,  
Mechanical Engineering Technology (11/12/08)  
**Jeanne (Bruzee) Shipley '01**,  
Industrial Engineering Technology &  
Civil Engineering Technology (11/12/08)  
**Tom McLaughlin '02**,  
Business Public Management (11/12/08)  
**Greg Porter '02**,  
Mechanical Engineering Technology (02/06/09)  
**Antonius Rivera '02 '05**,  
Business/Public Management,  
MBA Technology Management (11/12/08)  
**Oksana Silchuk '02**,  
Accounting (11/12/08)  
**John Swann '02**,  
MS Information Design & Technology (11/12/08)

**Jason Longo '03**,  
Business Public Management (11/12/08)  
**Sarah Reynolds Newcomb '03**,  
Health Services Management (11/12/08)  
**Angelo Pacheco '03**,  
Business/Public Management (02/06/09)  
**John M. Shipley '03**,  
Telecommunications (11/12/08)  
**Shaun Patrick Andrews '04**,  
Mechanical Engineering Technology (11/12/08)  
**Lynne Browne '04**,  
Professional & Technical Communication  
(11/12/08)  
**Michael de Mare '04**,  
MS Computer/Information Science (11/12/08)  
**Amy Serbonich '04**,  
Telecommunications (11/12/08)  
**Ernest Shand '04**,  
Sociology (11/12/08)  
**Jaime Stevens '04**,  
Finance (11/12/08)  
**Jon Alessandrello '05**,  
Electrical Engineering Technology &  
Computer Engineering Technology (11/12/08)  
**Nick J. Grimmer '05**,  
Business/Public Management (11/12/08)

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**Jill Hutchinson '05,**  
Business/Public Management (11/12/08)

**Rebecca La Clair '05 '07,**  
Nursing, MS Nursing Education (11/12/08)

**Jerome Ndayishimiye '05 '06,**  
Health Information Management, Health Services  
Management, MS Health Services Administration  
(11/12/08)

**Christine Paye '05,**  
Business/Public Management (11/12/08)

**Maryrose Raab '05,**  
MS Information Design & Technology (11/12/08)

**Sergio A. Rodriguez '05,**  
Electrical Engineering Technology,  
Computer Engineering Technology (02/06/09)

**James E. Silva '05 '07,**  
Computer/Information Science, MS Computer/  
Information Science (11/12/08)

**Keith Flint '06,**  
Accounting (02/06/09)

**Scott Fuller '06,**  
Business/Public Management (11/12/08)

**Nancy Wallace '06,**  
MBA Technology Management (11/12/08)

**Corey Hickok '07,**  
Professional & Technical Communication  
(11/12/08)

**Stephen Naimoli '07,**  
Computer/Information Science (11/12/08)

**Jennifer Phelan Ninh '07,**  
MBA Technology Management (11/12/08)

**Thomas R. Remsen '07,**  
Professional & Technical Communication  
(11/12/08)

**Ralph Smith '07,**  
Mechanical Engineering Technology (02/06/09)

**Eve Van de Wal '07 '08,**  
MS Health Services Administration,  
MBA Technology Management (11/12/08)

**Peter S. Zarubin '07,**  
Computer Information Systems (11/12/08)

**William Zeiter '07,**  
Sociology (11/12/08)

**Carolyn E. Zullo '07,**  
Nursing/Family Nurse Practitioner,  
MS Family Nurse Practitioner (11/12/08)

**Riccardo Bowlin '08,**  
Mechanical Engineering Technology (02/06/09)

**Eric Cappuccio '08,**  
Business/Public Management (02/06/09)

**Connie Castellano '08,**  
Professional & Technical Communication  
(02/06/09, 11/12/08)

**Maureen Cool '08,**  
Professional & Technical Communication  
(11/12/08)

**Terri (Hoffmeister) Davis '08,**  
Business/Public Management (02/06/09)

**Zack Hoffmann '08,**  
Computer/Information Science (11/12/08)

**David Lerman '08,**  
Business/Public Management (11/12/08)

## President Meets with First Student Ambassadors

### New program participants to represent SUNYIT

President Yeigh has announced the launch of a SUNYIT student ambassador program.

Five students comprise the first class of student ambassadors: Mark Simon, Hackettstown, N.J.; Jacqueline Gunn, Schenectady; Juleah Vedder, Stratford; Tysheem Foy-Carter, Brooklyn and Jonathon Brochu, Latham. The five met with President Yeigh recently to discuss their role.

“Admissions staff selected a number of potential candidates based on their volunteerism and their interaction with students, faculty and staff,” said Jennifer Phelan Ninh '07, director of admissions. “A number of candidates were invited to apply – to explain why they would be make good student ambassadors.”

Ninh says the five students selected provide a well-rounded representation of SUNYIT: with freshmen, transfer students, student athletes and residential students.

“Our goal for them is to represent SUNYIT at special events, give tours to visiting dignitaries, and assist the admissions office in preparing communication materials,” she said. “We’re really looking at how the program will develop in future years, and hope to build increased interest in it as a student leadership opportunity.”



First meeting for first ambassadors:  
Mark Simon, President Yeigh,  
Juleah Vedder, Jonathon Brochu.

**SUNYIT**  
Wildcat

# Athletics

## Wildcats Make Successful Transition to North Eastern Athletic Conference

The SUNYIT Wildcats have made a successful transition from the State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) to the North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC), which they joined this past fall season. The transition showed immediate results, as many of the fall sports had record-setting seasons.

Each of the five SUNYIT fall sports – men's and women's cross country, golf, men's and women's soccer and women's volleyball – had a season to remember. Men's cross country finished the season as the runner-up in the NEAC Championship and placed four student-athletes on the NEAC All-Conference team: senior Jeremy West (Central Square, N.Y./Central Square), junior Ryan Darling (Jordan, N.Y./Jordan-Elbridge) and freshmen Steven Busch (Ravena, N.Y./Ravena Coeymans Selkirk) and Robert Doss (Chittenango, N.Y./Chittenango). For the women's team, junior Alaina Spadaro (Holland Patent, N.Y./Holland Patent) was named to All-Conference First Team and also earned a NEAC Student-Athlete of the Week award during the season. The men's golf team had a very successful season, finishing with two wins, two second-place finishes and a top-five finish. In addition, junior Jesse Smith (Binghamton, N.Y./Chenango Forks) earned a NEAC Student-Athlete of the Week award for his first place individual finish at the Cazenovia Fall Classic in October.

Men's soccer had a tremendous season, finishing 10-7-2 overall and tying the school record for most wins in a season. The team also set SUNYIT season records for goals (30), goals per game (1.77), assists (25), points (85) and goals against average (1.85). In addition, the team made it to the semifinal round of the NEAC Championship Tournament and placed four athletes on the NEAC All-Conference Team: senior Andy Ambrose (Utica, N.Y./West Canada Valley) and juniors

Kevin Benjamin (Utica, N.Y./MVCC), David Martin (Marcy N.Y./MVCC) and Kevin Parks (Amsterdam, N.Y./FMCC). Women's soccer had similar success, winning a program-best eight games and advancing to the quarterfinal round of the NEAC Tournament. The team set program records for goals (54), goals per game (3.09), assists (40) and points (148), while placing three student-athletes on the NEAC All-Tournament team: senior Traci Bickelhaupt (Hammond, N.Y./Jefferson CC) and sophomores Jane Burroughs (Fonda, N.Y./Fonda-Fultonville) and Darilyn Brown (Middletown, N.Y./Middletown). In addition, Bickelhaupt and Burroughs both broke the program record for goals in a season with 14 each, while Burroughs also collected the most assists (9) and points (37) in a season in program history. Both student-athletes were recognized for the dominance throughout the season, as Burroughs took home a NEAC Student-Athlete of the Week award while Bickelhaupt earned the honor three times, as well as an Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Player of the Week award.

Women's volleyball also had a sensational year, establishing a program-best 19-10 record during the regular season, which included

going 7-0 at home and 6-0 in NEAC play to become the first SUNYIT team to win a regular season conference championship. The accomplishment helped head coach Rebecca Fletcher earn the NEAC Coach of the Year award, while freshman Juleah Vedder (Dolgeville, N.Y./Dolgeville) was named the NEAC Player of the Year and was selected to the NEAC All-Conference team, along with seniors Hillary Pundt (Skaneateles, N.Y./Skaneateles) and Cherice Gibbons (Bronx, N.Y./Grace Dodge) and sophomore Nicole Higgins (Sellersville, Pa./Penridge). In addition, Vedder was named the NEAC Student-Athlete of the Week three times, while Pundt and Higgins each received the honor once during the season. The team capped off its remarkable year by accepting the program's first-ever bid to the ECAC Championship Tournament.

According to SUNYIT Athletics Director Kevin Grimmer, the move from the SUNYAC to the NEAC was a necessary one in order for the school's student-athletes to gain a better overall athletic experience.

"For the past 16 years the SUNYAC provided the structure, organization and leadership which assisted in the development of our athletic program to this point," said Grimmer. "Our Wildcat sports program has evolved dramatically in recent years, but it's hard to gain an appreciation for how truly competitive our teams are gauged by our results in the SUNYAC. The NEAC provides a more appropriate level of competition for our inter-collegiate teams and a better playing experience for our student-athletes."

Since SUNYIT has many similarities to the schools associated with the NEAC, the choice to join the conference seemed to be an easy one.

"The NEAC consists of institutions very similar to SUNYIT in terms of budget and resources, enrollment, sports sponsorship and facilities and, like the SUNYAC, awards automatic bids to the NCAA postseason for



conference champions,” said Grimmer. “In the NEAC, our student-athletes are on a level playing field and our teams will have the opportunity to compete for those championships and postseason play.”

SUNYIT joins SUNY Cobleskill (Cobleskill, N.Y.) as the two newest members of the NEAC, which also includes Cazenovia College (Cazenovia, N.Y.), D’Youville College (Buffalo, N.Y.), Keuka College (Keuka, N.Y.), Penn State University - Berks (Reading, Pa.), Penn State University - Harrisburg (Middletown, Pa.), Wells College (Aurora, N.Y.) and Wilson College (Chambersburg, Pa.). Associate members include the University of Dallas (Irving, Texas), Medaille College (Buffalo, N.Y.), SUNY Oneonta (Oneonta, N.Y.) and Rutgers Camden (Camden, N.J.). Beginning in the 2009-10 academic year, D’Youville will depart from the conference, while two new institutions will be accepted by the NEAC for full membership: the College of Saint Elizabeth (Morristown, N.J.) and Penn State University - Abington (Abington, Pa.).

“This (move) is exciting for our student-athletes, and for all of us – the coaches, staff, faculty, alumni and friends of the college,” said SUNYIT President Wolf Yeigh. “The continuing development of athletics is an important part of student life here, and this is further evidence that SUNYIT is a growing and vibrant college.”

The current roster of SUNYIT sports include baseball, men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s bowling, men’s and women’s cross country, men’s golf, men’s and women’s soccer, softball, men’s and women’s swimming and men’s and women’s volleyball. ■



## Men’s Baseball

### March

|      |      |                     |   |    |         |
|------|------|---------------------|---|----|---------|
| Thu. | 3/5- | Spring Trip         | A |    |         |
| Sat. | 3/14 | (Winter Haven, FL)  |   |    |         |
| Sun. | 3/15 | Swarthmore          | A | DH | 11 a.m. |
| Fri. | 3/20 | Lehman              | A | DH | 1 p.m.  |
| Sat. | 3/21 | Maritime            | A | DH | 1 p.m.  |
| Sat. | 3/28 | Penn St. Harrisburg | A | DH | Noon    |

### April

|      |      |                |   |     |        |
|------|------|----------------|---|-----|--------|
| Sat. | 4/4  | D’Youville     | H | DH  | Noon   |
| Sun. | 4/5  | Mercy          | H | DH  | Noon   |
| Tue. | 4/7  | Hamilton       | H | (1) | 4 p.m. |
| Wed. | 4/8  | Union          | H | (1) | 4 p.m. |
| Sat. | 4/11 | Penn St. Berks | A | DH  | 1 p.m. |
| Mon. | 4/13 | Oswego         | H | DH  | 2 p.m. |
| Wed. | 4/15 | Utica          | H | DH  | 2 p.m. |
| Sat. | 4/18 | Keuka          | H | DH  | 1 p.m. |
| Sun. | 4/19 | Cazenovia      | H | DH  | Noon   |
| Tue. | 4/21 | Canton         | A | DH  | 2 p.m. |
| Wed. | 4/22 | Union          | A | (1) | 4 p.m. |
| Sat. | 4/25 | Cobleskill     | A | DH  | 1 p.m. |

### May

Thu. 4/30 – 5/02 NEAC Championships

Head Coach: Kevin Edick  
 Assistant Coach: Bob Richie  
 Assistant Coach: Ron Moore  
 Assistant Coach: Ben Bushey

## Women’s Softball

### March

|      |      |                       |   |    |           |
|------|------|-----------------------|---|----|-----------|
| Fri. | 3/6- | Spring Trip           | A |    | TBA       |
| Sat. | 3/14 | (Myrtle Beach, NC)    |   |    |           |
| Fri. | 3/20 | Old Westbury          | A | DH | TBA       |
| Sat. | 3/21 | TBA                   | A | DH | TBA       |
| Sat. | 3/28 | Penn State Harrisburg | A | DH | 1 p.m.    |
| Sun. | 3/29 | Wilson                | A | DH | 11 a.m.   |
| Mon. | 3/30 | Utica                 | H | DH | 3:30 p.m. |

### April

|      |      |                  |   |    |           |
|------|------|------------------|---|----|-----------|
| Sat. | 4/4  | Wells            | H | DH | 1 P.M.    |
| Wed. | 4/8  | Canton           | H | DH | 3 P.M.    |
| Sat. | 4/11 | Penn State Berks | A | DH | 1 p.m.    |
| Tue. | 4/14 | Potsdam          | A | DH | 3:30 p.m. |
| Sat. | 4/18 | Keuka            | A | DH | TBA       |
| Sun. | 4/19 | Cazenovia        | H | DH | Noon      |
| Tue. | 4/21 | Russell Sage     | H | DH | 3:30 P.M. |
| Sat. | 4/25 | Cobleskill       | A | DH | 1 p.m.    |

Head Coach: Jessica Skelton

Assistant Coach: Domenica Cracchiolo

## GOLF

### April

|      |       |  |   |  |           |
|------|-------|--|---|--|-----------|
| Tue. | 4/7   | Hamilton Invitational                  | A |  | 11 a.m.   |
| Sat. | 4/11  | Le Moyne Invitational                  | A |  | 1:30 p.m. |
| Sun. | 4/12  | Le Moyne Invitational                  | A |  | TBA       |
| Wed. | 4/15  | Wells Invitational                     | A |  | 1 p.m.    |
| Thu. | 4/23- | NEAC Championship                      | A |  | 11 a.m.   |
| Fri. | 4/24  | @ Cazenovia                            | A |  | TBA       |
| Sat. | 4/25  | Utica College, Cazenovia (Valley View) | A |  | 1 p.m.    |
| Mon. | 4/27  | Elmira Invitational                    | A |  | 10 a.m.   |

### May

|      |      |                             |   |  |      |
|------|------|-----------------------------|---|--|------|
| Fri. | 5/1  | Utica, Wells College        | H |  | Noon |
| Wed. | 5/13 | NCAA Div. III Championships | A |  | TBA  |
| Sat. | 5/16 | Port St. Lucie, FL          |   |  |      |

Coach: Tim Cox

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