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Cultivating change
From researching the use of a tropical grass to remove lead from the soil (pg. 14) to building a 2,000-bed residence and dining complex through the first public/private partnership made possible by the New Jersey Economic Stimulus Act (pg. 16), the past few years have been a time of extraordinary growth for Montclair State. Look for these notes throughout the magazine to see how we’ve changed.
Among the extraordinary projects that have developed over the past year at Montclair State University, the construction and opening of The Heights is perhaps the most exciting. It is the culmination of a great collaboration among legislators, private industry, campus leaders, and the many workers who labored to build this state-of-the-art residential and dining complex in just 14 months. (See story on page 16.)

Now home to nearly 2,000 students, The Heights brings a new vitality to the northern end of the campus and has energized the University with an influx of resident students from across the state and beyond. With The Heights, the University’s total number of beds will rise above 5,000 by the 2012-13 academic year, when renovations on other residential halls are completed.

The campus has been transformed with the addition of this new facility, along with other renovated buildings, the striking new College Avenue Promenade, and the restored historic quad bordered by College, Chapin, Russ, and Freeman Halls. Along with physical changes, we are introducing new programs and initiatives; conducting important research in the sciences, the humanities, education, and the arts; and fulfilling our mission to provide students with an affordable, high-quality education.

We are also building stronger bridges to connect alumni with their alma mater and classmates. We are committed to keeping alumni engaged in the life of the University, and our new online community, MONTCLAIRconnect (see page 34), is an important part of this endeavor.

None of these changes happen without support. In the past, public universities could depend largely on government for the funds necessary to implement their missions. Today, in the face of continually declining state funding, we rely increasingly on support from other sources. We have redoubled our efforts to attract funding from corporations, foundations, alumni, and friends and to increase contributions from federal and state agencies for programs and research.

As we sharpen our focus on development, planned giving has become another important source of support for the University. This past year, Montclair State received a number of significant estate gifts and pledges from retired professors and alumni. A growing number of alumni and friends of the University are now using the online giving feature on our website—montclair.edu/giving—as a way to express their commitment to Montclair State’s mission.

I cannot overemphasize the need and the importance for everyone to consider one of the many options for giving to the University. Please join us in supporting the mission—and the future—of Montclair State University.

Susan A. Cole
The Classroom and Administration Building—renamed College Hall in 1930—was the first building on campus. At one time, it contained the entire institution including classrooms, offices, a gymnasium, and a library.

The entire Class of 1910, Montclair State's first graduating class, could easily fit on the steps of College Hall.

Completed in 1937 as a Works Progress Administration project, the Amphitheater has been the site of many Commencement ceremonies.

No longer able to hold the numbers of people at Commencement, the Amphitheater is still used for many Convocation ceremonies.

College Hall today still has classrooms but is primarily comprised of administrative offices.
Today’s cheerleaders perform on Sprague Field at the 2010 Homecoming football game.

The Class of 2011 numbered 3,928 and, together with their families and guests, filled the Izod Center in East Rutherford.

Cheerleaders, a baton twirler, and a drum majorette pose in front of Chapin Hall in a photograph believed to be circa 1950.

The area outside College Hall’s west entrance looking toward the Kasser Theater is pictured in 2008 before work began on the College Avenue promenade project.

The same area, completely redesigned, is now the new home of George Segal’s famous sculpture, Street Crossing.
Six students and two professors from the John J. Cali School of Music captivated an audience that included President Susan A. Cole, along with friends and supporters of the University, at famed Steinway Hall in New York City this past March. The program included solo and chamber works by Grieg, Khachaturian, Prokofiev, Ravel, and Chopin.

The featured artists were Leigh Wang, Wenwen Liu, and Vincent Ip on piano; Rafael Galván-Herrera and Julia Meynert on violin; and Ashley Grutta on clarinet. Meynert and Ip were accompanied by Cali School professors David Witten and Mark Pakman.

The concert was presented in celebration of the Cali School’s status as an “All-Steinway” school and its growing stature among the nation’s leading institutions of higher learning.

Less than 20 percent of today’s jobs include moderate physical activity, according to a study conducted by Montclair State mathematics professor Diana Thomas, along with researchers from Pennington Biomedical Research Center and the Arnold School of Public Health at the University of South Carolina.

Exercising trends in occupational physical activities over the past five decades and comparing them to changes in body weight in men and women in the United States, the study concluded that a sedentary work environment is contributing to obesity.

“As jobs have become more sedentary over the past 50 years, the study supports increasing physical activity not only during leisure time, but also in the workplace,” says Thomas. “Stand-up desks, walking meetings, or treadmill-computer stations are some of the ways office work can be transformed for healthier living.”
Foundation Annual Dinner benefits the School of Business

With the University conference center transformed into a glittering cityscape, some 300 members and friends of the University community gathered in April for the 2011 Montclair State University Foundation’s Annual Scholarship Dinner.

The theme of the dinner was “Our students are your business,” with the proceeds from the event going to support a proposed 140,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art School of Business facility. The event raised an estimated $300,000 toward this goal.

A highlight of the evening was the 360-degree skyline encircling the room. It was imagined, designed and created—along with all the evening’s decorations—by students in the Advanced Studio Design class under the leadership of Professor Winfield Parsons.

The Carpe Diem Award, which goes to a distinguished alumnus/na or friend of the University for outstanding professional and personal achievements, was presented to Douglas L. Kennedy, State President, New Jersey, for Capital One Bank. Kennedy has been a member of the University’s Board of Trustees for more than a decade.

DID YOU KNOW?

15,980 undergraduate students applied for admission to Montclair State in 2011.

357 dance, theater, and musical performances were presented at Montclair State during the past academic year.

83,613 cups of coffee were poured at Café Diem, and 35,680 servings of fries and 33,832 quarter-pound hamburgers were consumed across the campus during the 2010-2011 academic year.

201 football wins and counting is the all-time Montclair State coaching record held by head football coach Rick Giancola. As he begins his 29th season at the University, he has been part of a remarkable 34 out of 80 football seasons.

15,000 red King’s Blood and white Maureen tulips burst into bloom on campus this past spring creating a spectacular sea of color.

Scholarships for students

Created in 1960 by alumni and friends as a way to provide financially for the needs of the University, the Montclair State University Foundation sponsors more than 350 annual scholarships for students and underwrites a variety of programs to reward excellent teaching and scholarship. In 2010, more than $1 million in scholarships was awarded.
Onward & Upward

During her 13-year tenure at Montclair State, President Susan A. Cole has taken the University to The Heights—and beyond. She shared her experiences in a recent interview.
“We have had to find new ways to build the institution and provide the high quality of education that we insist on offering our students.”
Interview with President Susan A. Cole

FEATURE:

No question about it. The quality and reputation of applicants is why we’re seeing record numbers. Student population has increased, and so has the quality of the institution and programs. From 2,500 degrees ten years ago, we granted close to 4,000 degrees in 2011. In addition, the reputation of Montclair State has grown the number of degrees granted by 65 percent. In 2011, we could possibly admitting 16,000 applications for 2,100 places in the incoming freshman class.

What was the campus like when you arrived?
It was a wonderful institution doing great work—but without adequate resources. The classrooms were old and ill-equipped, and the laboratories lacked the equipment and materials needed to do science in the twenty-first century. The campus had been under-resourced and under-built, and it showed.

How did you determine your initial priorities?
Most of my priorities derived from conversations with faculty, students, and staff. It was clear that we needed more facilities, for example. We also needed to enroll more students; we didn’t have a large enough student population for the range of degree programs we wanted to offer. In addition, it was absolutely clear to me that we needed more full-time faculty, and that they needed better technology to enhance the teaching and learning, and research. We were in the Middle Ages when it came to technology infrastructure.

How has the student body changed in the past 13 years?
The most significant change is that it’s much bigger. Enrollment has grown 50 percent. Beyond that, and even more significantly, we have grown the number of degrees granted by 65 percent. In 2011, we granted close to 4,000 degrees, up from about 2,500 degrees ten years ago. In addition, the reputation of the institution has grown. So applications have increased, and so has the quality of the student population.

Is that why we’re seeing record numbers of applicants?
No question about it. The quality and reputation of our programs has grown tremendously. They were strong when I came, and they’re much stronger now because of the new facilities, new faculty, and new programs that have been developed. Students want to come to Montclair State in great numbers—far greater than we can possibly admit. We had 16,000 applications for 2,100 places in the incoming freshman class.

“Montclair State has been around for more than 100 years and it has had a housing shortage for about 100 years. These new beds will enable us, for the first time in our history, to provide housing for any student who wants it.”

The growing student population has provided more tuition revenue, which has enabled a lot of the growth you see on campus. We have also had to raise tuition to offset the loss of state aid, but we’ve also been very aggressive about seeking support from corporations and foundations, including some very generous donors. We are reaching out to the approximately 100,000 living alumni of Montclair State, asking them to help support the students who are trying to gain the kind of education that they had.

You’ve made alumni relations a priority over the past few years. How can alumni reconnect with the University?
There are so many ways alumni can reconnect. They can help us recruit wonderful students for the institution. They can mentor students in their careers. It’s wonderful when alumni working at corporations bring two or three students from Montclair State into their offices as interns, giving them hands-on experience in the real world of work, and guiding them in their careers.

Alumni have so much to teach our current students. And of course, giving to the Annual Fund is a terrific thing for alumni to do.

The buzz has been terrific on Montclair State’s newest residential complex, The Heights [see article on page 16]. You were the first university president to take advantage of a new law that allows state universities to partner with private developers to build new buildings on campus.

Because resources from the state have been so minimal, we have had to figure out how to build things ourselves. We believed that private developers would be willing to finance and build new residence halls, which generate revenue without cost to the University or the state. There were laws that prohibited that, however, so the first thing we had to do was to get the laws changed.

There’s been a lot of press about recent reductions in state aid. With so much taken away, how are we continuing to grow?
It’s taken a lot of sweat equity, and a lot of help from good friends. Unfortunately, we have suffered a real disinvestment by the state in public higher education in New Jersey. So we have had to find new ways to build the institution and provide the high quality of education that we insist on offering to our students.
It took several years of hard work, but with the help of some forward-thinking New Jersey legislators, we were able to change the laws. As soon as we could, in 2009, we went out into the marketplace and found a strong partner, Capstone Companies, to help us build The Heights. With The Heights, Montclair State now has the capacity to house 5,000 students on campus. What's the value of a residential campus to the University community overall? Montclair State has been around for more than 100 years and it has had a housing shortage for about 100 years. These new beds will enable us, for the first time in our history, to provide housing for any student who wants it. We will always have many commuter students, but for those who want to live on campus, student housing provides a valuable immersion in the University environment.

Any other new buildings in the works? We are not yet done! We have wonderful programs in Communications and Broadcasting, but they don’t yet have adequate facilities. We’re putting finishing touches on the design for a proposed new science building, particularly for life sciences and environmental studies. And we very much need a new home for our business school. We have wonderful, fully AACSB-accredited business programs, which put us in the top third of business schools nationwide, but our current facilities are woefully inadequate, so we’re hoping to break ground on several new academic buildings in the future.

You’ve mentioned that recruiting new faculty is a top priority. How have you managed to remain committed to recruitment at a time when many universities are cutting back? Because it’s the right thing to do. I have seen institutions stop hiring faculty during times of budgetary stress, and it has had a devastating impact over the long term. They have missed out on generations of new faculty coming in, with new ideas and fresh knowledge. The faculty is the heart and soul of what we do in a university, so we need to make sure it remains a vital and continually renewed resource for our students.

“We need to keep getting better at everything we do. That is what Montclair State has done since 1908, and what we are going to continue doing.”

Didn’t you start out as a faculty member at the City University of New York? Actually, I started out as a playwright. I went to graduate school on a playwriting fellowship, but I needed to make a living, so I got a job teaching English at CUNY. At first, I planned to return to the theater, but I was drawn in by the theater that was the classroom, the dynamic that happens when you have students in front of you and something you want to teach.

How did you get into administration? That’s simple: I was participating in the life of the university as a faculty member, and it occurred to me that things weren’t all that well-run. I thought, “I can do this better.”

And here you are. What’s the agenda for the next five years? There’s going to be more growth. We will continue to recruit excellent new faculty, which we are doing at the rate of 20 to 30 new professors per year. We will continue to grow our student population. And we want to make our graduation rates even better than they are.

We need to keep getting better at everything we do. That is what Montclair State has done since 1908, and what we are going to continue doing.

Many, many years from now, how would you like your leadership of Montclair State to be remembered? I would like people to say that I enabled the development of the full potential of this incredible institution. I have always viewed my job as releasing the potential in others. Presidents don’t build universities by themselves: faculty, staff, students, and alumni all participate in the process. But all of that intelligence, ability, creativity, and potential needs to be released in a way that builds on a shared vision. I hope that’s what I have been able to do.

What will you remember most about your time here? Standing at the podium, watching the students file in for graduation. I love seeing those faces, that stream of eager young people with their lives before them. I love when parents stand in the audience and cheer. It’s an incomparable experience, and I never tire of it.
Are America’s students becoming less creative? According to a 2010 *Newsweek* article, U.S. scores on childhood creativity tests have been steadily declining for the past 20 years. The article attributes the disturbing trend to several factors including a lack of creativity development in American schools.

Montclair State University is tackling the so-called “creativity crisis” with an initiative to make creative thinking part of the curriculum for all students. The University is developing a groundbreaking Creative Thinking course that employs the creative approaches of visiting performing artists to help students discover their innate creativity and ingenuity, and teach them to use these qualities to engage in learning more deeply throughout their college career.

The initiative is supported by a two-year, $250,000 Creative Campus Innovations Grant awarded in September 2010 by the Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP), and funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Montclair State is one of only six universities out of 113 applicants to receive the grant this year, with APAP calling the course proposal a “stellar example of the power of collaboration among faculty, artists, and students.”
Key collaborators on the project are the University’s Office of Arts and Cultural Programming, the Research Academy for University Learning (RAUL), and a team of eight faculty members from a variety of disciplines.

“One of the things I hear from professors and artists is that people want things to be compartmentalized so that they can measure their own success,” notes Jedediah Wheeler, executive director for Arts and Cultural Programming. “It happens to artists—dancers, for example—all the time. You create a routine to solve a choreographic problem. But that is not anywhere close to solving it creatively—you are doing it in a routine way.”

Wheeler maintains that there is a parallel in pedagogy. “Students learn very well the routines of learning, but have they energized their creative potential? This is what we are trying to get at with this course.”

Creating a course that inspires creativity and fires the imagination is no easy task. The collaborators’ starting point was an acclaimed program taught by the late Paul Baker, a renowned theater director who was a professor at Baylor and Trinity Universities in Texas, and author of The Integration of Abilities: Ideas for Creative Growth. The book outlines a series of exercises and teaching techniques that can help stimulate a student’s creative juices.

Ken Bain, vice provost for University Learning and Teaching and director of RAUL, took the Baker course when he was a student at Baylor University and described it as a life-changing experience. “It was phenomenal,” he recalls. “Unlike anything I’ve encountered.”

Bain, who becomes the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at the University of the District of Columbia on January 1, 2012, will return as a visiting professor to be the lead teacher of the pilot course, which is expected to be offered as a three-credit elective during the 2012 summer session. Ultimately, the plan is that all incoming freshmen will take the course as part of their general education requirements.

So how does one go about teaching a malleable subject like creative learning? “We don’t go in and tell students how to be creative,” Bain explains. “We help them discover how to be creative through the activities in which they engage.”

The Office of Arts and Cultural Programming identified the artists whose work best exemplifies the goals of the Creative Thinking project. The artists are all connected with the Peak Performances @ Montclair performing arts series and are committed to serving as significant resources for the project. Those chosen include:

- Wayne McGregor and his company Random Dance—Top British choreographer McGregor is known for infusing new technology (3D architecture, virtual dancers, animation and electronic sound) and hyperkinetic dancing into the productions of his company.
- Robert Whitman—Outstanding American artist whose performance pieces combine visual and sound images, actors, film, slides, and evocative props into fascinating created environments.
- Robert Wilson—An iconic American figure in avant-garde theater who creates multimedia events that draw from a variety of traditions, including drama, dance, music, opera, and art.

These artists have agreed to be on campus intermittently for the two-year duration of the grant, taking part in workshops with students that explore the process of creative thinking and in symposium discussions about creativity, such as this past April’s Brainstorm at Montclair State. Other Peak Performances artists will join in as their schedules permit.

Although creativity may be more stereotypically connected to arts students than to those in other fields, all students are expected to benefit from the course. Associate Professor of Mathematics Mika Munakata, who is a member of the faculty committee developing the course, said creativity can open math students’ minds to different problem-solving methods. “Math students, for example, draw upon their knowledge of calculus and dancers use their knowledge of body mechanics to solve problems,” she says.

Having students gain an understanding of and confidence in their creative abilities can enhance their academic and personal lives, and continue to have an impact long after graduation. Over the long term, Bain hopes to see the course become “the heart of an undergraduate education” at Montclair State and even potentially serve as a model for other universities around the country.
The Grass is Greener

Researchers find new ways to purify contaminated soil

Lead-based paint was banned by the Consumer Product Safety Commission in 1978, but it remains a hazard in many old, deteriorating buildings. When the paint starts to flake and weather, lead can end up contaminating the surrounding soil. Lead contamination is a nationwide problem, particularly in blighted urban areas. It’s just the kind of problem that Montclair State University professor and director of the PhD program in Environmental Management Dibyendu “Dibs” Sarkar relishes tackling. Sarkar is in charge of scientific operations at SIROM Scientific Solutions, a company that specializes in developing environmentally friendly solutions to environmental contamination problems. In March, 2011, the company received a $500,000 federal grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to continue its work with a cost-effective “green” technology that can significantly reduce the amount of lead in soil.

In Sarkar’s field, science and pragmatism go hand in hand. “Environmental management is not only about research for the sake of research,” Sarkar explains. “If it doesn’t result in protecting our environment, then it’s not environmental management; it’s just research.”

Sarkar and a colleague, Rupali Datta, established SIROM in 2007 when they were both at the University of Texas at San Antonio. The company was relocated to Montclair State when Sarkar became a faculty member here in 2008. Since then, SIROM has become one of the first incubator companies (see sidebar) within the University’s College of Science and Mathematics (CSAM). Serving as a sponsor for incubator companies is a new direction in CSAM’s strategic plan, making it possible to expand the University’s reach into the business community and develop partnerships to support the College’s mission.

The lead remediation technology SIROM employs involves planting vetiver grass (a tall, tropical, non-invasive grass with roots that extend 2-4 meters into the soil) and then applying a natural, biodegradable chelating agent, which binds with lead in the soil so the grass can absorb it more easily through its roots. Tests are currently being conducted on lead paint-contaminated soil samples from Baltimore and San Antonio.
According to Sarkar, traditional methods, such as soil excavation, treatment, and replacement, are neither economically viable nor ecologically sound for lead remediation in residential properties.

“Our aim is to develop a technology that works in different environmental conditions,” says Sarkar. “San Antonio and Baltimore both have lead problems, but they have different soil types and climate differences.”

Juggling his company, teaching duties, and research suits Sarkar’s workaholic nature. The 43-year-old has more than 225 publications to his credit, including two books and around 100 journal articles and book chapters.

Looking ahead, he sees lead uptake as one of a long line of potential uses for vetiver grass. The hardy plant could also be used to remove nitrogen and phosphorous (from fertilizer run-off) as well as antibiotics from wastewater. Sarkar is excited by the possibilities. “These are huge uses,” he declares. “We are just scratching the surface.”

CSAM Dean Robert Prezant considers incubators an important future direction for the University. “They give our students an opportunity to see the start up of a real-world science enterprise. They also give start-up companies a place to incubate and hatch, and in return help the economy of New Jersey if they are successful,” he says.

The University also shares in the revenue from the incubator companies. The contract between SIROM and Montclair State calls for a 50-50 profit-sharing arrangement, with the University providing lab space for a nominal fee and financially supporting the process of patenting the company’s ideas. SIROM subcontracts a significant portion of its current million-dollar-plus total in research grants to Montclair State and also financially supports University students, creating a “win-win” for the University and its business partners.
For students who unpacked their bags at The Heights this September, Montclair State’s newest residence facility is an exciting introduction to campus living. For those who understand the far-reaching impact of this state-of-the-art facility, it’s a crucial step in the University’s transformation.

“Because we now have adequate housing, we have been able to go out and recruit students from a broader geographic region,” says Karen L. Pennington, vice president for Student Development and Campus Life. “In the past, we couldn’t guarantee that a student coming from southern New Jersey—let alone another state—would have a bed. But now that we have available beds, we can bring in students from outside the local area.”

In addition, “The location of student activity on campus has changed,” Pennington explains. “We’ve shifted further to the north and west with the Village, Sinatra Hall, and now The Heights. So there is a different feel to the activity that comprises the student experience.”

Standing at the north end of the campus near the Student Recreation Center and CarParc Diem, The Heights is home to nearly 2,000 students who occupy rooms in one of eight halls (see sidebar) while enjoying the many amenities of a LEED-certified, “green” residence complex.

“It’s a unique opportunity for student living,” says Dominic Petruzzelli, executive director of Residential Education and Services. “With both singles and doubles, it can satisfy a student’s living needs with regards to room configuration. Together with all the new facilities and amenities, and with its proximity to the Student Recreation Center, The Heights provides students with the kind of housing experience they want.”

For sophomore transfer Aaron Weinberger, the new facilities were a key factor in his decision to attend Montclair State. “I got excited when I saw the single rooms and how close the dorm was to the new Rec Center. I could see myself living there,” Weinberger says.

The fully furnished rooms are wired for cable TV with 78 channels, and have individual heat and air conditioning controls. Wireless internet connectivity is available throughout the complex. Also making its debut at The Heights is Sam’s Place, a dining area that boasts five “restaurants” in one space and offers a variety of food choices—gourmet sandwiches, brick-oven pizza, fresh salads, contemporary diner fare, and even a Mongolian grill.

The greater number of residential students on campus creates a need for new programs, activities, and education for staff and students, and Petruzzelli says that Residential Education and Services is prepared for the task. The department has been reorganized and new positions have been added to account for the increased numbers.

Several campus departments were brought into the mix. “We’ve partnered with other campus areas to build a program that encompasses the entire community,” Petruzzelli explains. “We’ve added a component of student development and leadership for our Community Assistants and our students, and integrated many campus offices into the student programming experience.”

Changes in the facilities, programs, and activities all reflect the changing needs of students entering Montclair State today, who are very different from the students of 10 or 20 years ago.

“It’s the shift of generations,” explains Pennington. “Today’s student grew up with a lot more amenities—they had their own rooms, phones, computers, TVs, their own ‘everything.’ So the kind of facility where the TV is down the hall in a common room doesn’t work for them.”
Petruzzelli agrees, adding that students’ evolving expectations for their residential experience were the driving force behind many of the changes. “We developed our programming models knowing that the student demographics and needs have changed,” he says. “For the same reason, we have also changed how we market, advertise, and inform students through the social media: Facebook, Twitter, texting, and YouTube.”

More resident students, more students from outside the local area, new programs and activities, and a new building complex: it’s all part of the evolution of Montclair State. Weinberger sums it up: “It’s great to be here. The buzz on campus is exciting.”

What’s in a name?

The largest student residential development in the state, The Heights has two main complexes: John Victor Machuga Heights and Anthony M. Dinallo Heights, named in the memories of these individuals and in recognition of major gifts to the University. Each building has four residential halls named after New Jerseyans of note who have passed on.

**Machuga Heights**
- **Sam Mills Hall** – for the alumnus and pro football great
- **Althea Gibson Hall** – for the tennis pioneer and champion
- **William Gordon Hall** – for the alumnus, physicist, and astronomer
- **Clara Barton Hall** – for the founder of the American Red Cross

**Dinallo Heights**
- **John Basilone Hall** – for the WWII hero
- **Albert Einstein Hall** – for the scientist
- **Walt Whitman Hall** – for the poet
- **Nellie Katherine Morrow Parker Hall** – for the alumna, and the first African American teacher in Bergen County, New Jersey
International programs bring the world closer for students and faculty

Montclair State’s ties to the global community are growing stronger every year, with expanding overseas partnerships and an increasing number of students and faculty coming from abroad.

Last year, nearly 220 Montclair State students traveled to 25 countries on study-abroad programs, while 70 faculty members engaged in research and program development overseas. At the same time, 85 international scholars and more than 750 students came to campus from outside the United States.

In addition, 17 Fulbright Scholars—exceptional graduate students from around the world—have chosen to continue their studies at Montclair State in 2011-12. This is the largest number in University history, and is indicative of Montclair’s growing reputation for excellence in the global community.

“We have been moving in this direction for the past 15 years, but our activities have recently accelerated,” says Marina Cunningham, executive director of the University’s Global Education Center.

Beginning this fall, the University is offering a dual-degree bachelor’s program for Korean students in cooperation with Seoul National University of Science and Technology in South Korea. Korean students first spend two years at Seoul Tech and then two years at Montclair State to earn degrees in either industrial design or business from both institutions.

“This is something we plan to expand in the future because of the demand for American degrees from international universities,” Cunningham notes.

Through the John J. Cali School of Music, Montclair State has also forged relationships...
with many of the world’s top conservatories, including the Tchaikovsky Moscow State Conservatory in Russia; the Milan Verdi Conservatory in Italy; the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, Hungary; and the University of Music and Performing Arts in Graz, Austria.

“As the world grows smaller, it is very important for our students to learn the perspective of other musical cultures,” says Ruth Rendleman, interim director of the Cali School. “These partnerships give students from New Jersey a unique opportunity to study at renowned conservatories abroad, and also help Montclair State attract students from those conservatories to study here.”

Another popular international program is Teaching in English, which leverages the growing trend toward using English as the worldwide language of instruction. “Our aim is to help faculty members at foreign universities improve and strengthen their English skills,” says Longxing Wei, a professor of linguistics who co-directs the program. Since 2005, about 45 Montclair State professors have taught subject-specific English skills at six universities in China, South Korea, Austria, and Mexico.

On-campus programs also promote greater exposure to foreign cultures. For example, Tea and Talk is a forum for roundtable dialogues on international issues between visiting scholars and Montclair State faculty, and the Forum on International Issues lecture series brings scholars and other experts to the campus to discuss international issues with a broader audience.

Plans are underway to present a festival highlighting the arts and culture of the Muslim world in 2012. The event follows a tradition that was established in 2006 with the presentation of The Hungarian Festival of Arts and Humanities, followed by an Italian Festival in 2008 and a Chinese Festival in 2010.

“It’s a very timely subject,” Cunningham says. “We plan to focus on programs that encourage cross-cultural understanding, and bring attention to the grassroots efforts that have been made to bring about change and attain a sense of justice in the Muslim world.”

All of these efforts enrich the experience of students, scholars, and alumni in the Montclair State community. “To be an educated citizen today, you need to understand global systems and societies,” Cunningham says. “By offering an array of international programs in which they can participate, the Global Education Center helps students connect to a changing world.”
When Rosiane Lesperance '11 MA began her career as a biology teacher at East Side High School in Newark this September, she wasn’t the new kid on the block. She already knew her way around the school, she’s worked side by side with her teaching colleagues, and she has a sense of belonging within the Newark community.

“As a first-year teacher, I know it’s going to be challenging. But because I’ve already been a part of the school for a full year as a resident teacher, I’m going to bring a level of confidence and knowledge to the classroom environment from day one,” she says.

In a competitive job market, university programs that immerse students in real-world learning can provide a valuable leg up when it comes to employment opportunities. The Newark-Montclair Urban Teacher Residency Program (NMUTR) goes a step further. This innovative, apprenticeship-based program is designed both to provide an educational program for graduate students deeply
committed to urban teaching and to meet the staffing needs of an urban school district. The attrition rate of new teachers is a significant problem in urban districts, with nearly 50 percent of teachers leaving within the first three years in certain schools.

“Teacher consistency and commitment within a school are vital to closing the academic achievement gap,” explains Jennifer J. Robinson, director of the Center of Pedagogy at Montclair State University. “By immersing graduate students in the life of the school and fully preparing them for the challenges and commitment required, first-year teachers hit the ground running, making fewer mistakes and having a greater impact in the classroom right from the start. The result is a positive and fulfilling experience for both teacher and student,” she says.

Residencies: Not just for doctors

Using the traditional medical residency as a model, NMUTR partners graduate education students with highly qualified mentor teachers who are experienced in the residents’ areas of certification (elementary, mathematics, science, and special education) in an urban setting. The program provides full Montclair State tuition and fees plus a living stipend to all candidates. Mentors also receive professional development support from the University.

The first Urban Teacher Residency programs launched in 2003 in Chicago, Denver, and Boston. Since then, all three cities have seen no less than an 85 percent retention rate of teachers within their same school districts. The success of these programs resulted in the federal government adapting the program on a larger scale with grants to 28 university/urban partner programs in 2009, including a five-year grant of nearly $6.4 million to Montclair State’s College of Education and Human Services.

Residents simultaneously engage in rigorous coursework integrated with the clinical apprenticeship, through which they receive a master’s degree and teacher certification. Upon successful completion of the master’s programs, candidates are given preferential advancement in the hiring process by the Newark Public Schools and receive induction support through the NMUTR program for a minimum of two years after they complete the residency program. This induction support is also being made available to all new teachers in the Newark Public Schools, regardless of participation in the residency program.

The first cohort of students graduated in August 2011. All 12 have been offered teaching positions in the Newark school district.

Choosing to teach

Getting accepted into the NMUTR program requires both strong academic credentials and a passion for urban education. According to Susan Wray, associate professor of Early Childhood, Elementary Education, and Literacy Education, and lead faculty member for the early childhood/elementary strand of the grant, “We look for students who not only bring a love of learning and teaching to the program, but who have a deep commitment to teaching in urban schools, specifically Newark Public Schools.”

Lesperance came up through the Irvington school system, graduating third in her class. When she got to Rutgers as a college freshman, however, her sense of academic leadership quickly faded.

“I was like, what is this?” she recalls. “Why do these kids know things that I don’t? We all went to school in New Jersey.”

And her professors and mentors wish her the best this school year as she enters the next phase of the program. “Rosie sees herself as part of a community,” says Robinson. “As an experienced teacher, she now has the ability to influence students and make a difference in Newark.”

Elevated by education

As Lesperance tells it, the NMUTR program has completely transformed her, giving her a clear perspective on how she wants to impact the world.

“I look at the world differently now,” she says. “It is my duty as a teacher to provide as many children as possible with the opportunity to live life to the fullest, and I believe knowledge and a sense of community can help them achieve that goal. Without being educated, you can’t be elevated.”
The received wisdom is that September 11 is to the millennial generation what the Kennedy assassination was to baby boomers. In 1963, I was sixteen and going into my junior year of high school when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. On September 11, 2001, today’s college freshmen were eight years old.
When I joined the History Department at Montclair State five years ago, I drafted a proposal for a course I wanted to teach called “America in the Post-9/11 World.” The course was a response to what I’d been reading about how “maybe it’s time to move on” and “stop commemorating” the tragic events of five years past. I worried that the millennial generation might forget the implications of that day and its aftermath. And I felt that it was part of my responsibility as a professor to revisit this historical moment and discover why it was transformational.

As part of this process, I asked entering freshmen in my fall 2006 Introduction to American History class to talk about “their 9/11.” They could remember a teacher making a tearful announcement; parents coming to pick up their frightened kids and drive them home; turning on the television and witnessing the devastation at Ground Zero; or not knowing what the World Trade Center was, or even what the word “terrorist” meant. “Until September 11, I never knew about any American affairs in the Middle East,” one of the students wrote. “When I think about my education in the South Jersey schools, I hardly remember any discussion about Middle Eastern affairs.... But now, I’ve come to the conclusion that you need to get the facts and research the possibilities before you take action in life. And also, we need to pass on our knowledge to others so that their emotional ignorance does not push them to think and act irrationally.”

Over time, 9/11 has inevitably become more “historicized,” coalescing from the shards of personal memories into a vast, supposedly objectified Master Narrative. But as Joanne Meyerowitz, professor of American Studies at Yale, told The New York Times, “For historians, history is never set in stone. It’s written and rewritten in each generation. The events of the present, of the contemporary age, always help us reframe the events of the past. And the events of the past always help us to reframe the age we’re living in.”

As the years go on, iconic images of billowing smoke and gashed concrete remain in the forefront of my mind. It’s not just because as a writer I have come to believe that when you live through a global drama of epic proportions you need to memorialize it. And it’s not just because I am compelled by a pedagogical obligation to “teach the conflicts.”

I hope our students will take some time this season to stop and reflect upon 9/11/01 as a conduit to historical consciousness in general. To this end, a public symposium, “The Uses of the Imagination in the Post-9/11 World” (see sidebar), has been scheduled for October 12, 2011. It will provide an opportunity to get together as a community and talk about how we can draw upon the violent lessons of the past to help us recognize and appreciate the redemptive qualities of the present—and help prepare us for an uncertain future.

Neil Baldwin, PhD, professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance, and director of the Creative Research Center (montclair.edu/creativeresearch), is the author of many books of biography and nonfiction, most recently The American Revelation: Ten Ideals That Shaped Our Country from the Puritans to the Cold War.
HALL OF FAME ROOM
NAMED IN MEMORY OF BASEBALL GREAT

Peter M. Altieri ’62 was captain of the baseball team and led Montclair State to one of its finest seasons in 1961, boasting a 15-3 record. His many achievements included a .467 batting average during the 1961 season and a 26-game hitting streak in 1962, both University records that stand today.

Altieri was honored this spring when the remodeled Athletic Hall of Fame Room was named in his memory.

The Hall of Fame Room is located in the recently renovated Panzer Athletic Center and was made possible by the generous donation of Betty Altieri-Granito ’55 and Frank H. Granito Jr., Peter Altieri’s brother-in-law. Thirty-one Montclair State Hall of Fame alumni attended the April 16 dedication ceremony, along with members of the Altieri and Granito families and their guests.

“We are very proud of our past and current athletes at Montclair State and especially those athletes who are commemorated in the Hall of Fame,” says Holly Gera, director of Athletics. “We are grateful to the donors, whose generosity made this room a reality.”

Altieri was twice named first-team All-Conference and twice received the Most Valuable Player Award. In 1962, he received the MAC Outstanding Senior Award and the Charles P. Turek Award for dedication to the sport. He was inducted into Montclair State’s Athletic Hall of Fame in 1978.

After graduating from Montclair State, Altieri earned a master’s degree from Arizona State University, and served as principal at Cortez High School in Phoenix before being named district administrator of Health, Physical Education, and Athletics for the Glendale Union High School District in Glendale, Arizona. In 1983, he was named Athletic Director of the Year by the Arizona Interscholastic Athletics Administrators Association.
Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Holly Gera (left) and Associate Vice President for University Advancement Carol Blazejowski ’78 (right) pose with Susan Altieri, Peter Altieri’s wife.

A National Champion
Will Brown of Gloucester, New Jersey, is the first Montclair State University male athlete to win multiple indoor track titles, taking first place in the 55 meter hurdles at the NCAA Championships in March. Brown set a new Capital University track record when he posted a time of 7.54 seconds in the finals. He is the fifth athlete overall to collect multiple NCAA titles and earned his seventh All-American honors with the victory.

Football
The Red Hawk football team repeated as New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) champions and qualified for the NCAA Division III Playoffs for the second straight season. Montclair State advanced to the second round with a thrilling 16-14 win over Hampden-Sydney College in a rematch of the 1970 NCAA Knute Rockne Bowl. The Red Hawks finished the year 10-2 and swept all the major awards from the NJAC as Tom Fischer (Livingston, N.J.) was named Offensive Player of the Year while Dan Keegan (Fairfield, N.J.) was chosen Special Teams Player of the Year. Freshman Dan Avento (Montvale, N.J.) was honored as Defensive Rookie of the Year.

Women’s Lacrosse
Like the men’s team, the Red Hawks women’s lacrosse team won its second consecutive Skyline Conference Championship and its fifth in the past six seasons. Montclair rolled through its opponents with a perfect 8-0 league record, downing in-state rival Ramapo in the championship game to earn a trip to the NCAA Division III Women’s Lacrosse Championship Tournament for the fourth time in program history. Senior Kayla Henderson (Landing, N.J.) was named the Skyline’s Player of the Year and was also voted All-Region as the Red Hawks placed fifth on the Intercollegiate Women’s Lacrosse Association Boardwalk Region Team.

Excelling on the Field—and in the Classroom
Not only did the Red Hawks distinguish themselves on the field during the 2010-2011 academic year, they also performed at the highest academic levels. Football standouts Tom Fischer and Gary Knoeppel (West Long Branch, N.J.) were named to ESPN The Magazine’s All-District Academic Team, the field hockey team was presented with an Academic Award from the National Field Hockey Coaches Association, and a total of 69 student-athletes were named to the NJAC All-Academic Team, including Fischer and basketball standout Jaime Ericson ( Flemington, N.J.), who were chosen for the First Team.

Full circle
It’s always a photo op when Associate Vice President for University Advancement Carol Blazejowski ’78 poses with visitors in front of the wall display highlighting her basketball days at Montclair State. “The Blaze,” who once scored 52 points in a single game at Madison Square Garden and is enshrined in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, returned to work for her alma mater in 2011.
In the NCAA Tourneys

In addition to football and the two lacrosse teams, three other Red Hawk squads enjoyed trips to NCAA Tournaments. Men’s Soccer continued its run of excellence with a fifth straight trip to the Division III Men’s Soccer Championship Tournament, where the team advanced to the second round. The softball program returned to the national tournament for the first time in three years. A young and talented group led by freshman Alex Hill (Parsippany, N.J.)—who was named NJAC Pitcher and Rookie of the Year—the team finished 27-12 and tied for first place in the NJAC during the regular season. Women’s Track and Field also provided plenty of highlights. Freshman Krystal Ellis (Morristown, N.J.) competed in the pentathlon and placed 11th at the NCAA Indoor Championships in March. Sophomore Heather Garity, (Rutherford, N.J.) who was named an All-American, came within one second of joining Will Brown as a national champion during the outdoor season as she finished second in the 400 meter hurdles. Senior Joseph Gingerelli (Wood-Ridge, N.J.) also qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships in the javelin, finishing tenth overall.

All-Americans

Along with Will Brown and Heather Garity, two other Red Hawks received All-American accolades during the 2010-11 year. Robert Sinicola (North Caldwell, N.J.) became the first men’s lacrosse player in program history to earn multiple All-American honors as he was named Honorable Mention by the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association (USILA). He also was named to the USILA Division III North/South Senior All-Star Game. Football punter Joe Liscio (Little Falls, N.J.) was named to the D3football.com All-America Third Team as he helped the Red Hawks to the NJAC title and NCAA Playoff berth.

Montclair State to Host NCAA Women’s Lacrosse Championship

The NCAA will bring its Division III women’s lacrosse championship to Montclair State in 2012. The national semifinals will be held May 19-20 on Sprague Field. Montclair State also will host the 2013 Division II and Division III championships. The 2012 event will be the second time that an NCAA national championship will take place at the University. In 2009, Montclair played host to the Division III Softball Championship at the Softball Stadium.

Community Efforts

Montclair State student-athletes continued their efforts at making a difference in the community with several projects throughout the year. Conducting its 11th annual Holiday Toy Drive, Montclair State donated 250 toys to Parent’s Place/Club de Padres in Paterson, New Jersey. Club de Padres is a group of children and families with disabilities, and serves those families in the Paterson area as well as all Latino families in urban communities in New Jersey. Montclair State student-athletes also lent their skills at the Essex County Special Olympics.
On the surface, it was a victory celebration for the Montclair State men’s lacrosse team. Underneath, it meant so much more.

On April 30, the team captured its third straight Skyline Conference Championship as the Red Hawks defeated Farmingdale State, 9-7, and earned a berth in the NCAA Division III Men’s Lacrosse Championship Tournament. As the final horn sounded, the team erupted in celebration, equipment strewn everywhere as players and coaches reveled in the victory of the game and the memory of the coach they lost too soon.

For the entire season, the Red Hawks “played 2011 for John Greco,” their head coach who passed away suddenly on November 4, 2010 at the age of 33. Greco ’00 had turned Montclair State into one of the top teams in the region and led the Red Hawks to back-to-back Skyline crowns while producing the greatest season in school history in 2010, when his team went 15-4. A former Montclair State lacrosse player, Greco spent eight seasons as the head coach, compiling a record of 96-44, a 43-10 mark in conference play, including a 23-2 ledger in the Skyline Conference since 2007.

“This was the toughest thing we ever had to go through,” said Montclair State junior Tyler Meth. “When I transferred [from Lynchburg as a freshman] he was like a second father to me.”

The team wore “Playing 2011 for John Greco” bracelets throughout the season and hoped to honor their coach with another run toward a Skyline Championship and an NCAA berth. Greco’s former teammate and assistant coach, Adam Torrisi ’00, took over the team and wore Greco’s cap to honor his best friend. The season got off to a rough start at 3-6, with four losses coming to teams ranked in the Top 10 in the nation. The sixth loss came at the hands of Farmingdale, whose three-goal win on April 6 snapped Montclair’s 17-game Skyline regular-season unbeaten streak. The Red Hawks responded with five consecutive wins (all in the conference) to close out the regular season and then won a tight 4-3 contest against New York Maritime College in the tournament semifinals to set up the rematch with Farmingdale.

After falling behind early in the title game, Montclair State used a three-goal run in the second quarter to take a 6-5 lead at halftime. The Red Hawks would maintain that advantage throughout the second half as Meth, who was named the Most Valuable Player of the Tournament, scored the last of his three goals.

The Red Hawks accepted the Skyline Championship trophy, then walked over to the cheering section to present it to Greco’s wife, Karen. “It was a really important day for us,” said Meth. “Going through the whole thing, it helped us become better people.”
New on Campus

“The faculty is the heart and soul of what we do in a university, so we need to make sure it remains a vital and continually renewed resource for our students.”

— President Susan A. Cole

Meet some of the new faculty and administrators who have joined the Montclair State University community in 2011.

**Robert Cart**, the new director of the John J. Cali School of Music, most recently served as dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts at Rowan University. An accomplished opera singer, he has performed leading roles with opera companies throughout America and Europe. He has also maintained an active schedule as a flutist. Cart received a Master of Music degree from Indiana University and a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Maryland.

**Gerard Costa**, director of the new Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health, received a PhD from Temple University, taught in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and has practiced psychotherapy for over 30 years. He has a special interest in relationship-based approaches to autistic-spectrum disorders and was the founding director of the YCS Institute for Infant and Preschool Mental Health, which operates New Jersey’s only licensed, Medicaid-approved mental health clinic specializing in infants and young children and their families.
After earning a PhD from the University of Minnesota and spending eight years at Baruch College’s Ziklin School of Business, Mehmet Genc has joined the faculty of the Department of Management. His research focuses on how in-country institutional characteristics, such as the extent of corruption, regulation, and unwritten norms, shape the strategies of multinational firms and their competitive advantages and disadvantages in the international marketplace.

Thomas Herold comes to the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures after earning a master’s degree from Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany, and a PhD from Harvard University. He received several prestigious awards at Harvard, including the Jack M. Stein Teaching Fellow Prize in Germanic Languages, six Derek Bok Center Certificates of Distinction in Teaching, and the Esther Sellholm Walz Prize for the best paper or essay. Herold’s research focuses primarily on nineteenth- and twentieth-century German literature and film. He has published numerous articles and has three book projects in progress.

Kenneth Lam comes from his position as assistant conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra to the Cali School of Music, where he will conduct the Montclair State University Symphony Orchestra and lead the Orchestra Studies program. He recently took top honors at the Memphis Symphony Orchestra Conducting Competition, and serves as Resident Conductor of the Brevard Music Center in North Carolina; Artistic Director of the Greater Baltimore Youth Orchestras; and Artistic Director of Hong Kong Voices. Lam read economics at Cambridge University and studied orchestra conducting at the Peabody Conservatory.

Having earned a PhD in school psychology at the University of Oregon, Danielle Parisi joins the Special Education faculty in the Department of Curriculum and Teaching. Her research focus is in “response to intervention,” an innovative instructional approach that uses data to identify students with learning disabilities, support the development of appropriate instructional interventions, monitor their progress, and adjust interventions on the basis of individual student responses.

David Rotella earned a PhD at Ohio State University, began his career at the University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy, and then moved to the pharmaceutical industry, conducting research at Wyeth Research, Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, and Bristol-Myers Squibb. He now returns to the academy as the Margaret and Herman Sokol Professor of Chemistry. Rotella has played a leadership role within the Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the American Chemical Society, served as co-editor of the 7th edition of Burger’s Medicinal Chemistry, and serves as senior editor of the Royal Society of Chemistry’s Drug Discovery book series. He has authored over 30 scientific publications and currently holds seven patents.
The Graduate Experience

New Programs Transform Careers and Lives

By Joan C. Ficke ’71
Dean of The Graduate School, Montclair State University

Graduate students often have careers, families, and busy lives to manage. With so many responsibilities, pursuing additional education can be an arduous task.

Our mission at The Graduate School is to help these motivated students reach their full potential. Much has been written about the necessity of a graduate degree for a wide range of professional jobs—possibly upwards of 2.5 million in the United States alone. Montclair State serves a graduate population of 4,000 students in more than 100 degree, certificate, and certification programs, preparing them for success in the workplace as well as future educational opportunities and, always, informed participation in society.

The challenge in graduate education has been complicated by a tumultuous national and state economy. Here at Montclair State, we’ve learned to be responsive and nimble, offering innovative day, evening, and weekend courses including hybrid courses that combine online and face-to-face learning experiences.

We are continually reevaluating our programs to focus more tightly on our students’ needs. This, along with academic rigor, is an essential component of a graduate experience appropriate to one of the premier comprehensive universities of our region.

We are enormously proud of the scholarly work conducted by our faculty. Each year, we publish a brochure listing the books they have written, another on scholarly articles that have appeared in peer-reviewed journals, and yet another containing all of the grants our faculty have received for their work. It is an impressive collection.

A signature aspect of the graduate experience at Montclair State is the mentoring relationship between faculty and students—what we call the faculty-student-scholar connection. Graduate students, and in some cases undergraduates, work side by side with faculty on their research.

Our graduate programs support both scholarly interests and professional advancement opportunities, offering a variety of concentrations or specializations within degree programs, targeted to the needs of our students, and to the evolving dynamics related to professional opportunity. We expect students to leave Montclair State prepared to assume leadership roles in a variety of professional settings. In this sense, the graduate educational experience provided at Montclair State is, and should be, transformative. We are gratified that so many graduates have met—and exceeded—our expectations.
“Montclair State transformed my life.”

“Montclair State University has had a lasting effect on me personally and professionally. I received a great education at a cost my family could afford. The foreign language courses were superb. Learning from professors such as Teresa de Escorizaza and Germaine Cressey had a lifelong impact on me.”

Conrad J. Schmitt ‘58 is a retired foreign language educator and the successful publisher and author or co-author of more than 250 foreign language textbooks. He recently made a major bequest to Montclair State to help ensure that future students might enjoy the same opportunities that made a difference in his life.

“I wanted to give something back.”

“Montclair State gave me the tools I needed to be successful in my career. I wanted to give something back and to help worthy students studying foreign languages.”

Create your own legacy. Visit montclair.edu/plannedgiving or contact Judy Echeveria Linder ’83 at 973-655-5454 or judy.linder@montclair.edu for more information.
In recent years, college graduates have begun to see their alma maters as valuable resources in both their personal and professional lives. The alumni family at Montclair State is more than 100,000 strong, and the Office of Alumni Relations is helping graduates reconnect in a variety of ways.

According to Jeanne Marano, executive director of Alumni Relations, the University has a deep commitment to alumni engagement. “We use the word ‘engagement’ because it truly describes the active process we use to identify the needs and interests of our alumni, and provide them with programs and opportunities for involvement,” she says.

More alumni than ever before are returning to campus for events; to support admissions recruitment activities; and to take advantage of job resources, share their expertise with current students, or take part in volunteer activities.

The Alumni Relations department is building upon an already successful program to bring engagement to the next level. “Our alumni play an important role in the future of Montclair State because they—perhaps more than anyone—share the University’s vision and commitment to excellence,” Marano says.

“We develop programming that builds on our strengths and resources, and that is responsive to the needs and interests of our alumni,” she adds. “Expanding on- and off-campus activities, programs, benefits, and services increases the sense of connection and belonging we want our alumni to have with the University.”

To help understand and address these needs, the department is using alumni focus groups to assess program effectiveness and surveys to gauge alumni engagement in specific programs. Alumni Relations also launched a new online community, MONTCLAIRconnect, and is in the process of redesigning its web presence.

Marano says the department is also working with the individual schools and colleges to expand offerings geared to their graduates.

“This is a very exciting time for all alumni of Montclair State. There are more ways than ever to be involved with the University and the opportunities are continuing to grow. We want to remind alumni that this is a lifetime connection, and we encourage their involvement.”

For more information on alumni events, activities, and resources, visit montclair.edu/alumni or call 973-655-4141.
Recent Alumni Network Offers Career Benefits and Fun

Young alumni can now take advantage of a network built especially for them: RAN (Recent Alumni Network).

RAN offers programs and resources to help the graduating class transition from students to alumni; address the special interests of the years following commencement; and provide opportunities for networking, community service, social gatherings, cultural outings, and reunions. Suggestions for new activities are always welcome.

RAN committee member Evan Childs ’98 notes the importance of actively engaging with other alumni. “As the alumni community strengthens, the prestige of the University as a whole advances,” he says.

“Montclair State alumni are everywhere—in the media, business, education, science, government, all around the globe. Leveraging this collective power and intellectual legacy gives new alumni a great advantage.”

This year, RAN offered a variety of exciting programs including Speed Networking, where guests learned essential career networking tips from an image expert, and Wine Tasting 10. At this well-attended event, older students and alumni mingled over Italian sparkling, red, and white grape varietals while learning the history of the wines, their regions of origin, and tasting protocol.

Alumni also recently gathered for an evening of networking at the Black Bear Bar in Hoboken, New Jersey.

The session was spearheaded by committee member Mark McLafferty ’07, who says, “It is crucial to take advantage of networking programs.

We offer the opportunity to become a part of a dynamic community where you can build professional connections that will be beneficial for everyone.”

Recent alumni should check email for invitations to upcoming events, or contact alumni@mail.montclair.edu to make sure you’re on the mailing list.
Alumni of Montclair State University are members of an exclusive group. One of the benefits of membership is enrollment in MONTCLAIRconnect, a new online community with valuable networking tools that connect you to fellow graduates around the world.

MONTCLAIRconnect features email forwarding for life, event listings and registration, discussion boards, photo galleries, class notes, and resume posting capabilities. There’s also a Facebook interface and a robust career networking area.

Benefits include:
- **Strength in numbers:** Our worldwide alumni community is over 100,000 strong and growing fast.
- **Classmate search:** Search the directory by name, class year, location, company, and more. Bookmark and add comments as you grow your personal connections.
- **Choose how you want people to view you:** Decide how much information to share with the community through expanded privacy settings.
- **Keep in touch:** View and post class notes; visit web pages for information on regional, class, and special interest groups; check for events; visit photo galleries; activate your email forwarding address; and join discussion groups.
- **Connect on Facebook:** Add the Montclair State University Alumni Connections app to stay connected.
- **Join the Career Advisory Network:** Access online career resources and upload your resume. Serve as a career contact for fellow alumni and students. Search for informational contacts in your chosen field or area of interest.
- **Activate email forwarding:** Now you can have a free email forwarding address that never changes. Even when you change jobs or email providers, your address will remain the same.
- **Make a gift:** Click on the secure form to donate to Montclair State online, and set up installments that fit your budget. Contributions are critical to ensure that our brightest and most promising students have access to affordable, quality higher education.

Expand your network; make your connection today at montclair.edu/montclairconnect. For more information, call Alumni Relations at 973-655-4141 or email montclairconnect@mail.montclair.edu.
Career Resource Seminar Series

Are you transitioning to a new career or just looking for a job? The Office of Alumni Relations offers a free career resource seminar series to help graduates navigate the increasingly competitive job market.

“Our goal is to provide assistance to our alumni whenever and however they need us,” says Jeanne Marano, executive director of Alumni Relations. “Our seminars and workshops can help you make the move to a better job, even in a tough market.”

Seminar sessions were held throughout the spring and summer. In *Developing Your Personal Brand*, participants learned how to develop their brand statement and provide a 20 to 30-second value proposition. The evening featured Kathy Carliner, senior vice president at Rosica Public Relations.

*Use LinkedIn and other Social Media to Get and Ace Interviews* focused on LinkedIn as an essential tool for job seekers. The session featured Robert Hellmann, a certified Five O’Clock Club Career Coach and professor at NYU who is also the author of *Your Social Media Job Search*.

Hellmann returned to campus to present *Career Transition: Targeting a Great Career/How to Achieve Satisfaction in your Next Job*. The session reviewed self-assessment exercises that provided self-knowledge as well as a framework for making decisions among many career possibilities.

*The Fundamentals of Networking* focused on the power of effective networking, featuring Beth Branigan, a career and management coach and organizational development consultant. Branigan previously hosted a session on resume writing.

In addition to these workshops and seminars, alumni enjoy lifetime access to career resources, including counseling, occupational research services, and employment services provided through the Center for Career Services and Cooperative Education. Director Adam Mayer explains, “We offer one-on-one counseling to discuss job search correspondence, interviewing strategies, career change, how to handle job loss, applying to graduate school, and more.”

The Center holds career fairs each semester as well as workshops and one-on-one sessions each semester. For more information, contact Adam Mayer at 973-655-5194 or mayerad@mail.montclair.edu. Have an idea for a session? Email us at alumni@mail.montclair.edu.
Connie Gilenson Lefkowitz ’39 is 93 years old and has been married for 69 years to Charles Lefkowitz and has three children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Her award-winning artwork is featured in the United States and Israel. Israeli Soldier is on exhibit in Jerusalem at Beit Halochem. She is also an exhibiting member of The Artist Guild, an affiliate of the Boca Raton Art Museum and a member of Women in The Visual Arts.

Eileen (Kempton) Drew ’48 recently had her work, How We Became Floridians, published in Mosquito Beaters Memory Book, 2010.

J. Robert Parkinson ’54, ’59 MA published several books: Mottoes for Managing, Becoming a Successful Manager, Executive Briefings & Presentations, and How To Get Others To Do What You Want Them To Do.

Edward Habermann ’55 was named to the Palm Beach Senior Softball Association All-Decade Team at an annual banquet.

Arthur Lemos ’55 MA published a new book called A Speck of Dust 2, which expounds upon his belief in using logic rather than emotion in order to attain knowledge.

Barrie Beaver ’61 and Barbara Lais Beaver ’63 are currently visiting with their son, John and his family in Singapore. John is the lead scientist for Maccine Industries, a pharmaceutical research company based in Singapore.

Robert Thourot ’61 was named to the Palm Beach Senior Softball Association All-Decade Team at an annual banquet.

William Gabrielson ’62, ’66 MA will enter his 50th year in education teaching middle school, high school, and college students; including positions as a supervisor, assistant principal, and 15 years as a principal in New Jersey and South Carolina.

Carole Capp Saccocci ’64 retired in 2009 after teaching 45 years for the Woodbridge Board of Education. She served as a French and German teacher, was director of the Language Lab, Teacher of the Year, and named in Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. She was also nominated for the prestigious “Palmes Académiques” for her teaching methods, and for her French Honor Society and French Club students’ participation in local, national, and international service-learning activities.

John Velcamp ’64, a management coaching and career development consultant in Silicon Valley, was asked to join Hospice of the Valley’s Board of Directors. Prior to this offer, he had been a volunteer at Hospice of the Valley.

Thomas Holtackers ’65 was named the National Multiple Sclerosis Society’s 2010 Volunteer of the Year. Holtackers was diagnosed with MS in 1980 and has been a physical therapist for 40 years. In 2006, he retired from The Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, where he presently resides.

Stephanie Michael Rogers ’66 produced a Christmas family comedy film called Battle of the Bulbs.

Patricia Nachtigal ’68 was named a member to the Governor’s Higher Education Council by New Jersey Governor Chris Christie.

Joe Perrone Jr. ’68 recently signed a three-year contract with a German literary agency, Interpill Media, in Hamburg, Germany. He has published several works of his own.

Maureen Gallagher ’70 was awarded a Founders’ Medal from Bergen Catholic High School.

Mary C. Hepp ’70 was appointed vice president, management director at Draftfcb, a global interactive marketing communications agency.

Richard Fuchs ’71, a former art teacher in the Saddle Brook school system, is the president of the Men’s Club at Greenbriar Oceanaire Golf and Country Club, where he actively participates in a...
variety of charity work and community service. He is also a member of the local Municipal Alliance and the Building Our Community program.

Julianne Roszczewski Tilstone ’71 married Cyril Tilstone, and moved to England.

Karen Glynn Bishop ’72, ’77 MA recently celebrated the 25th anniversary of Halstrom High School, previously named Futures High School.

Robert E. Brewster ’72, ’81 MA was inducted into the Union County Baseball Hall of Fame. He was honored for his outstanding contributions to our national pastime on the baseball diamonds of Union County, New Jersey.

Robert Butts ’72 made his debut as an opera director in July 2011, directing a production of Mozart’s The Marriage of Figaro at the Atlantic Coast Opera Festival in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Thomas Cusick ’72, a school counselor from Middletown High School North in Middletown, New Jersey, was selected as the 2010 Human Rights Award recipient by the New Jersey School Counselor Association.

Richard Insley ’72 was recently appointed a municipal judge in Montclair, New Jersey.

Denise Wood ’72 wrote and produced an educational DVD called Strategic Weight Training for High Performance Athletes. It includes training methods learned under the mentorship of Phil Grippaldi, legendary Olympic weight lifter and Montclair State alumnus, to whom the DVD is dedicated.

Mckinley Boston ’73, the current athletics director at New Mexico State University, was reappointed to the NCAA Division I Leadership Council.

Robert R. Roehrich, PhD ’73 was appointed by the Rocky Vista University Board of Trustees as president and chief executive officer of the University.

Laureen Ong ’74 has been named president of the Travel Channel (see profile on p. 39).

Paul Stahlin ’74 has been named chairman of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Anthony DeNorchia ’75 MA retired after more than 20 years at Hillsdale (New Jersey) School District.

Peter Lijoi ’75 was named executive director of the New Jersey Urban Enterprise Zone Authority.

Valerie Reinhardt ’75 was named executive director of school leadership for Chapel Hill-Carrboro (North Carolina) City Schools.
Richard Ryan ’75 was selected by Prudential Gross and Jansen Highlands Realty as Outstanding Agent of the Year for the Andover, New Jersey, office.

Don Spidell ’75 recently married Sue McManus, whom he dated in 1976 and reconnected with in 2009. His new stepdaughter Caitlin is a freshman at Montclair State University.

Arlene Stepputat ’76 was named volunteer coordinator of Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care.

Debra Cangi ’77, a veteran real estate advertising and marketing executive, has joined Max Spann Real Estate and Auction Co. as a regional director of business development.

Mark Majeski ’77 was named president of the New Jersey Middle School Association. He is also principal and director of curriculum for the Florham Park (New Jersey) Public Schools.

The Class of ’61 is honored at the 2011 Commencement exercises.
Mario A. Marano ’77 was honored with the title, Cavaliere, of the Order of the Star of Italian Solidarity.

Nicholas J. Scerbo ’77 was named Ridgewood (New Jersey) High School’s new Athletic and Wellness Director.

John S. Wyatt ’77 has been appointed as Coordinator for the Carteret (New Jersey) Office of Emergency Management.

Robert R. Berckes, DC ’78 was appointed by the Secaucus (New Jersey) Board of Education as principal of Secaucus High School.

Carol Blazejowski ’78 was appointed associate vice president for University Advancement at Montclair State University.

Corinne Clarke ’78 was appointed as the first full-time executive director of The Arc of Whatcom County.

John Formisano ’78 was appointed by Azure Dynamics to its Board of Directors. He recently retired from Federal Express Corporation where he served as vice president - Global Vehicles.

Mark Laurenti ’78 is the head boys’ soccer coach at Hamilton (New Jersey) High School West, consultant to ShopRite Supermarkets, and marketing consultant at PurePOWERCorp. He has been married for 20 years to Denise Bryant Laurenti, and has two children: Nicole (18) and Jacqueline (17).

Laureen Ong ’74 knows better than anyone that the days of passive television viewing are gone. Today’s viewers watch their favorite shows with the expectation of gaining something from the experience or being motivated to take action. “What we do is inspire you,” says Ong, who took over as president of the Travel Channel in April 2010 after three years as chief operating officer for Star Limited Group, a global television network based in Hong Kong. She joined Star Limited after six years as founding president of the National Geographic Channel, where she expanded the channel’s digital and new media platforms.

“If people are watching Tony Bourdain in Vietnam [on the Travel Channel’s No Reservations], they may want to stay where Tony stayed, and do what Tony did, and they can get all that information on our website,” Ong explains. The Travel Channel is owned by Scripps Network Interactive, which also owns HGTV, Food Network, DIY Network, and others. “These channels are different from general entertainment networks,” she says. “We are about creating a lifestyle, and there’s a takeaway and learning in everything we do.”

Teaching is in Ong’s blood, even though she didn’t become a math teacher—as she intended—after graduating from Montclair State. Her life took a different turn when she seized an opportunity that ultimately would set the foundation for her successful career in television. “I had a teaching job lined up for September,” she explains, “but I needed a summer job, so I took a position as a receptionist at a small independent television network.” She focused on being the best receptionist she could be. When the opportunity for advancement came, she jumped at the chance, offered to train the new receptionist, and put herself side by side with the employee who could teach her the most.

“It’s all about attitude and going the extra mile,” says Ong, who, at 58, says it’s important to continually reinvent who you want to be and what you want to do. “You have to have drive and remember to be the best at whatever it is you choose.”
Ruth McMorrow ’78 has joined the firm, Parsons Enterprises, as executive vice president. She will be responsible for leading the firm’s efforts in public-private partnerships, project financing opportunities, and project investment initiatives.

Maryann Woods-Murphy ’78, ’88 MA has been honored with the 2009 Reverend Lee Reid Award, presented by the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance Committee. She was also named the Bergen County (New Jersey) 2009-10 Teacher of the Year.

Kenneth M. Rothweiler, Esq. ’78, senior partner of Eisenberg, Rothweiler, Winkle, Eisenberg, and Jeck P.C., was recently elected president of the Pennsylvania Association for Justice (PAJ, formerly the Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association), the largest trial lawyer association in the state. Also a legal analyst for Philadelphia’s FOX TV news affiliate, Rothweiler will lead PAJ in upholding its mission to promote a fair and effective justice system.

Csilla Sadloch ’78 was the featured artist for April at The Gallery at Chapin School in Princeton, New Jersey. The oil paintings and drawings Sadloch exhibited were created over the past three years and highlight her intricately imagined, idiosyncratic view of the natural world.

Lisa C. Buono ’79 has been named director of the Over-the-Counter at Actavis, Inc., in Morristown, New Jersey. She brings with her nearly 30 years of experience in nonprescription pharmaceuticals and consumer health care marketing and management, including 10 years in various assistant vice president positions at Pfizer Consumer Healthcare.

John D’Alusio ’79 MA has joined the company, MEDVAL, as the new executive vice president. He brings over 30 years of insurance industry experience in executive management positions in administration, field operations, and claim technical areas.

Louis Ferraro ’79 was appointed CEO of Magicpins.com, a leader in business-to-business e-commerce systems for distribution of pre-paid wireless refill and phone products.

Joe Gallick ’79 was the 2010 recipient of The Pennsylvania State University Robert D. Pashek Award.

Barbara H. Yetman ’79 has been named vice president of Student Affairs at Bucks County College in Pennsylvania. In her new role, she oversees Student Affairs departments such as Admissions, Financial Aid, Career Services, Counseling & Advising, Transfer Services, and Student Life.

Glenn E. Tynan ’80 is a finalist in the Best Growth Manager area. He is also a member of the Montclair State’s SBUS Advisory Board.
Robert Eustace ’81 recently had a four-page suite of his “Mixed-Media Wall Pieces” published in U-Magazine (debut issue), a quarterly publication of the Fine Arts, Graphic Arts, Poetry, and Literature.

Laurie Ann Sarro Ross ’81 is the assistant director of Alternative Education for the Madison-Oneida Board of Cooperative Educational Services in Verona, New York. She has been with the board for 23 years. She is also a member of the communications committee of Kappa Delta Pi, an International Honor Society in Education.

Peter D. Aquino ’83 was appointed by TiVo, Inc., to its board of directors. He was most recently president and chief executive officer of RCN Corporation from December 2004 to August 2010. He currently serves as a director of Primus Telecom Group, and the United Way of America.

Donna Colantuoni ’83 can currently be heard as the voice-over for an Aspercreme commercial. She works as an actress, singer, and voice-over artist and may also be seen nationwide in various commercials on television.

Michael A. Gunza ’83 has been promoted to vice president/investment representative of Lakeland Bank.

James Merli ’83 was appointed by Nomura, the global investment bank, as the managing director and head of Debt Origination and Debt Syndicate for the Americas.

Eloisa Castillo ’84 was awarded The Hudson Perinatal Consortium Inc.’s annual Heart of Gold Award.

Todd Carnevale ’85 was appointed managing director and head of Municipal Yield Trading by Jefferies, a global securities and investment banking firm.

Robert B. Sigler ’85 received the “Best Respiratory Manager” award from Advance news magazines.

Camille Spaccavento ’85 has recently been named the director of Audience Development and Communications at The Mann Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sue-Ellen M. Wright ’85 was appointed director of Development by the Paper Mill Playhouse. She will work closely with the Board of Trustees, local, regional, and national foundations, corporate, government, and individual funders to identify and grow the resources to support Paper Mill Playhouse’s artistic vision, arts education programs, and strategic organizational development.

Catherine D. Franzoni ’86 was named a member of the Board of Trustees of the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Monmouth and Middlesex counties in New Jersey.

Steven M. Klein ’87 has been appointed chief operating officer of Northfield Bancorp, Inc.

Mariana Francioso ’88 MA retired from the Nutley, New Jersey, school district after 31 years. She was the assistant superintendent for the past four years.

Sandra Amaya ’89 was married on March 20, 2011.

James Fasano ’89 was named principal of Bergenfield (New Jersey) High School, Bergenfield.

Sue-Ellen M. Wright ’89 has joined Rosen Seymour Shapss Martin and Company LLP, a certified public accountants and profitability consultants firm, as the director of Fiduciary Service.

Ray Humphrey ’89 joined Hartford Investment Management Company as senior vice president and portfolio manager.

Sharon K. McLaughlin ’89 joined Collins School in Livingston, New Jersey, as an art teacher.

William Hennessy ’91, a professor at Quinnipiac University, received the John Archer Memorial Award at the Connecticut Society of Radiological Technologists’ annual conference in Waterbury, Connecticut. He was also elected vice president of the Society for 2011.

Rachael Victoria Fisher-Layne ’00, ’02 MA was married to Darren Layne.
Antoinette Johnson ‘91 wrote her first book, *No More Hair Drama*, a non-fiction work that chronicles the journey that an African American woman has taken in the world of hair.

Tobi-Lyn Byers ‘92 is engaged to David. The two reside in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Susan Friend ‘92 won second place in a national songwriting competition that was held in Hollywood and judged by a panel of celebrities that included musician Mick Fleetwood and actress Marla Maples.

Alana Fichtelberg ‘94 MA will have two items published in the new *Unthinkables* book written by Michelle Garcia Winner for individuals with social thinking/social learning challenges. They were selected out of over 550 entries submitted from around the world.

Leigh Barker ‘95 MAT married Jeff Gardner.

Alberto Olarte ‘95 MA was named one of the 2010 Verizon Wireless HopeLine® Scholars.

Jill Knapp ‘96 published her first book entitled, *ITIL V3 Foundation Exam Video Mentor*, which is a book/DVD set designed to prepare students for the ITIL Foundation Certification Exam.

Deana L. Davis Cerniglia ‘97 has just released the book, *Words from the Wise, Parenting with Proverbs*, which offers straightforward, Bible-based information to improve parenting skills and make the job easier.

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**Greg Collins ’79**

Greg Collins ’79 never forgets the people who made a difference in his life. The positive influences he had growing up, as well as those who inspired him as a student at Montclair State, helped define the man he is today.

“I’m the type of person who appreciates everything that has been done for me and every opportunity I had,” says Collins, who is managing director of G. Collins & Company, LLC, which provides tax, business management, and accounting services to clients in the sports and entertainment industries, small businesses, and high net-worth individuals. “I make giving back part of my day-to-day existence.”

Collins enrolled in Montclair State as a business administration major with a concentration in management. He was introduced to accounting job opportunities during his sophomore year through the Cooperative Education program, changed tracks, graduated with an accounting degree, and became a CPA.

His journey—which included positions with the IRS, Columbia Pictures, Ernst & Young, and AT&T—has led to recognition as a leader in the field. Collins’ firm represents professional athletes and entertainers including Sean “P Diddy” Combs, 50 Cent, and Andrew Bynum of the Los Angeles Lakers.

Collins also serves as treasurer of the University’s Foundation Board of Directors and was assistant treasurer of the Alumni Association. “I like to stay connected to things that are positive for me, and Montclair State was very influential in my life.”

He encourages students to network early in their academic careers. “Don’t wait to graduate to look for a job,” he advises. “Get into your chosen field as quickly as possible.”

Twelve years ago, Collins helped establish the Marion P. Thomas Charter School in Newark, New Jersey, where he was born and raised. He has been an active member of the school’s board of trustees for more than 10 years. “We want to provide these students with a positive educational experience that puts them in a direction that leads above and beyond the streets of Newark,” he explains.

What’s it like being an accountant to the stars? “It’s certainly not a normal 9 to 5 work day,” Collins said, “but it’s more exciting and challenging than I ever imagined.”

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Christine Canova Huxford '98 welcomed a baby boy, Richard John, on March 7, 2011, with husband, Richard D. Huxford, Esq., '97.

Maria Padilla Palacio '98 is the Lyrasis NextGen Librarian Award Winner for the Lee County Library System. She was chosen for this award based on her leadership skills and impressive work on outreach projects of all types, including multicultural and literacy services, bookmobile and books-by-mail, and senior outreach services. She has also been recognized internationally as an invited speaker at the 4th Annual Conference on Public Libraries and Multicultural Societies in Spain.

Linda Quinn '98 MA was appointed director of Long Valley Arts. She retired from Long Valley (New Jersey) Middle School, where she worked for 28 years as a band director. Quinn still oversees the Color Guard for West Morris Central High School in Chester, New Jersey.

00s

Rachael Victoria Fisher-Layne '00, '02 MA was married to Darren Layne.

Noreen Weidener '00 announces the birth of a son, Andrew, born January 7, 2011. He joins big sister, Marissa.

Marvin Hector Autrey III '01 was married to Tracey Lynn Runne.

Michael DiGuisepppe '02 was married to Nancy Ahlert.

Timothy J. Purnell '02 MA was appointed superintendent of the Somerville (New Jersey) school district.

Francesca Amato '03 and Cristina Lofaro '03, best friends and educators, are acknowledged for their efforts and hard work. In 2010, third grade teacher Lofaro was named Waldwick, New Jersey’s Julia A. Traphagen School’s Teacher of the Year. A year later, in 2011, her best friend and guidance counselor Amato was named Weehawken (New Jersey) High School’s Teacher of the Year. The friends met during a summer class at Montclair State University in 2002.

Samantha Gulick Rice '03 announces the birth of a son, Alexander Brayden Rice, born on May 9, 2011. He joins big brother, Nicholas.

Janna DiBartolo Childs '04 and Evan Childs '98 welcomed a son, Caleb Ryan Childs, on August 6, 2011. Caleb weighed 7 pounds 6 ounces and measured 20 inches.

Carolyn Dachinger '06 is currently finishing up a master’s degree in music therapy at the University of Miami’s Frost School of Music, where she was awarded a full graduate teaching assistantship.

Angelica Kline '05 was appointed vice president and branch sales manager of Valley National Bank, in Wayne, New Jersey. She brings over 12 years of banking experience to her position.

Maleesa Phemsint Lamatina '05 and her husband, Brian Lamatina, welcomed a baby boy, Gavin James, on November 5, 2010.

Carolyn Dachinger '06 is currently finishing up a master’s degree in music therapy at the University of Miami’s Frost School of Music, where she was awarded a full graduate teaching assistantship.
Sandra Guillen '06 MA is the founder and president of Clear Interpreting, LLC. Her linguistic skills, legal experience, and background in journalism have allowed her to develop, create, and grow Clear Interpreting.

Gary Jacob '06 was married to Danielle Aldrich.

Yuri Jadotte '06 graduated from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) Medical School in May 2010. He completed his internship in Internal Medicine and will be pursuing a PhD in Urban Health Systems at UMDNJ.

Carinne Stachelski-Murphy '06 and Michael Murphy, welcomed a daughter, Gia Elizabeth Murphy, on July 14, 2010.

Steve Stoer '06 was married to Michele Nitroy.

Dana Taormina '06 has joined JCPR as a senior account supervisor, responsible for coordinating and executing media relations programs while providing critical client support services.

Lyudmila Tyurina '06 MBA became a certified public accountant in June 2011. She is the senior auditor at Lambrides, Arnold, Moulthrop, LLP, and specializes in providing auditing services to nonprofit organizations.

Nancy Barkho '07 was married on July 18, 2010 and is now six months pregnant.

Katie Mulhearn '07 was married to Nicholas Serraino.

Samantha Rauch '07 and her mother, the owners of Say I Do Bridal boutique in Caldwell, New Jersey, have relocated their store. In addition to housing couture gowns, the Rauches also pride themselves on having sample sizes to fit every bride who walks through the door.

Ellen Cahill '08 MEd won the New Jersey Council for the Humanities Teacher of the Year Award.

Caroline D. Damiano '08 was married to Loukas J. Flamos '08.

Matthew P. McKenna '08 MA was appointed as one of the new school counselors at Livingston (New Jersey) High School.

Luis Ortega '08 MA earned his second master’s degree this May, a Master of Education, and will be the social studies teacher at John F. Kennedy High School in Paterson, New Jersey. He has two beautiful and wonderful daughters.

Tonilyn Russomanno '08 MA was married to Frank Sciacca Peragallo.

Matthew Unkel '08 was recently sworn in as a patrol officer with the East Brunswick (New Jersey) Township’s Department of Public Safety.

Ashley Babilonia '09 is currently working at a charter school in Newark and is looking to branch out to start her own charter school program. She would like to connect with someone who might be able to provide some feedback or input into her concept and the process.

Kimberly Campbell '09 MA was appointed as the new school counselor at Heritage Middle School in Livingston, New Jersey.

Howard M. Freund '09 MA was appointed assistant principal of H.B. Whitehorne Middle School, in Verona, New Jersey. He is not new to this school as he taught music there before this promotion.

Carly Hug '09 was married to Timothy Hausch.

Kay S. Potucek '09 MA was named the new drama teacher at Hopewell Valley Central High School in Pennington, New Jersey.

Daniel E. Russak '09 was named the new health and physical education teacher at Harrison School in Livingston, New Jersey.

Eileen Barash '10 graduated magna cum laude from Montclair State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in nutrition, with a concentration in dietetics. Last year, she began a nutrition and dietetics internship at West Virginia University Hospital in Morgantown, West Virginia.

Robert Bonora '10 walked nearly 3,000 miles across the country in an exhausting bid to help raise cancer awareness.
Erica Emmich ’09 remembers exactly when she first knew she belonged in television. “It was when I first walked into the studio for my interview at the DuMont Television Center,” she recalls. “I immediately saw the TV set and thought ‘that’s where I’m going to be!’” Now a news assistant at Fox 5 News in New York, she is well on her way to reaching that goal.

Emmich’s daily assignments vary from tracking down a story on the street as a field producer to working on special feature projects. “Some days I manage the video for the morning show, Good Day New York, and other days I’m in the control room managing the live shots and all the feeds that are coming into the news room,” she says. “It’s very exciting!”

Emmich says that her education prepared her well for the challenges of broadcast life. “I credit Montclair State with helping to launch my career in the television industry,” says the former broadcasting major. “I came in with an advantage because all the classes I took and the skills I honed at Montclair State prepared me for the editing, writing, and reporting I do here.”

“I like to think of the Montclair State Broadcasting Department as the boot camp of the real world of television,” she says. “It simulates the real thing: you have deadlines; you have to pitch stories; you have to write; you have to edit—you become a member of a real production crew.”

Emmich enjoys all aspects of her work but has a special affinity for field producing. “One of the things I love most is the excitement of being sent out in the field,” she says. “Whatever the story is, it becomes my mission and that’s what I like about it. It’s hunting down the news, finding people, and getting their opinions.”

Although her ultimate goal is to be on air reporting the news, Emmich is happy with where she is now. “It’s a lot of hard work,” she admits, “but I pour my heart and soul into it. It’s a great feeling to look at the finished product and be able to say ‘Wow, that was a lot of work but I loved every minute of it!’”
James McGilvray '41 (left) and Milton Mirsky '41

Milton Mirsky '41

Milton “Chick” Mirsky ’41, a four-sport athlete and member of the Montclair State Athletic Hall of Fame, passed away in July. He was 95. A star in football, basketball, baseball, and track and field, Mirsky was a rare athlete who could do it all. After graduating from Montclair State and serving in the Navy during World War II, he coached high school sports while enjoying a successful career as a public school administrator. Mirsky kept close ties with Montclair State, and was most recently on campus in May when he met with former teammate, classmate, and friend James McGilvray ‘41.

Marjorie Levy Kremer ’44
Anne Crisafulli Devito ’45
Morris Cohen ’46, ’57 MA
Helen Kaufers Dziemian ’46
Vilie Aronne Corzzi ’47
Irene Balabus Douvres ’47
Ellsworth Garrison ’47
Eleanor Svec ’47, ’50 MA
Joseph Del Vecchio ’48
Paul Schneider ’48 MA
John Shawcross ’48
Marguerite Chadwick Kerr ’49, ’53 MA

Evelyn Patemoster Strano ’49
Robert Tilley ’49, ’52 MA
Alan Farner ’50
Edward Ferenzi ’50, ’63 MA
Adam Geyer Jr. ’50, ’55 MA
Arthur Jackowski ’50
Charles Lyons ’50 MA
Charles Paglieri ’50
Charles Rogers ’50, ’61 MA
Harry Savage ’50
Eda Becker Sharenow ’50
Vernon Dausch ’51
Albert Deckenback ’51

Mario Lambroschino ’51
Michael Morris ’51
Ada Meyer Moyes ’51
Milo Okkerna ’51 MA
Sara Shadd Orr ’51
Robert Palmeri ’51, ’52 MA
Joseph Pucillo ’51
William Semper ’51, ’73 MA
Herbert Smith ’51
Mildred Gilbert Space ’51
George Demougeot ’52 MA
Pasqualina Esposito Monica ’52
Ann Spiro Olenchuk ’52
Margaret Willey ’52, ’58 MA
Ruth Krantzow Rood ’53
Louis Dultz ’54 MA
Paul Sillirie ’54
William Watson ’54
Irwin Figman ’55, ’66 MA
Nicholas Picciano ’55, ’71 MA
Gerard Parisi ’56
Norma Napoliello Konawai ’58
Nancy Imlay Chard ’59
Lucienne deWette ’59
Carl Seibert Jr. ’59, ’74 MA
Joseph Della Badia ’60, ’67 MA
Lillian Behre O’Brien ’60
Rita Snook ’60
Ralph Clark ’61 MA
Patricia Donohoe Irvine ’61
Alexandra Pitanik Pelosi ’61
Mary Cronin Schroeder ’61
Chester Tenenbaum ’61 MA
Carol Hulse Benton ’62
Edward Finnc Jr. ’62
Elaine Michelfelder Hofse Hofsess ’62
Edward Musgrave ’62 MA
June Long Smith ’62
Thomas Tiefenbacher ’62
Thomas Johnson ’63
Walter Carney Jr. ’64 MA
Robert Neff ’64 MA
June Fornoff Pinto ’64, ’70 MA
Eugene Pearson ’65
inMEMORIAM

Virginia Uzzolina Harrison ’66
Claire Wisniewski Virgilio ’66
John Bergacs ’67
Kenneth Donohue ’67
Eileen TkatchWolfskehl ’67
JoAnn Giangrande Abella ’68
Thomas Cushane ’69
Stephanie Pashick Eckert ’70 MA
Margaret Hait ’70 ,’76 MA
Mary Golgowski Keenan ’71
Arlene Kirman ’71
John Alito ’72 ,’73 MA
Jane Masson Corson ’72 MA
Maria Corvelli Ilaria ’72
Evelyn Jacobs Ortner ’72
Maria Dorr ’72
Anthony Zucco ’72
Gloria N. Zaffino ’72
John Alioto ’72, ’73 MA
Jane Masson Corson ’72 MA
Mary Golgowski Keenan ’73 MA
Paul Parker ’73
James Barriale ’73, ’77 MA
Rhoda Konkin ’73 MA
William Matlosz ’73 MA
Lynne Nierenberg ’73 MA
Joan Dalon ’73
Irving Bersak ’73 Cert
Elizabeth Adams Kraus ’73
Carolyn Johnson ’73, ’95 Cert
Richard Miller ’73
John Greco ’73
Roslyn Zuckerman Rynar ’73
Robert Hildebrandt ’73
Edward Weissner ’73
Mary Ellen Hurley ’73
Melinda Green ’73
Susan MacFarlane ’73
Scott R. Williams

Margaret Hait ’70 ,’76 MA

Margaret Hait ’70 ,’76 MA, long-time member and past president of the Montclair State Alumni Association, passed away in March. A determined and dedicated supporter of the University, Hait was instrumental in raising funds for the Amphitheater Restoration Project that restored the iconic 1930s campus landmark. In recognition of her exemplary commitment and effort, Hait’s peers presented her with the Alumni Citation Award in 2000.

Robert Hildebrandt
Mary Ellen Hurley
Melinda Green
Susan MacFarlane
Scott R. Williams

Scott R. Williams

The University community mourns the passing in December 2010, of Scott R. Williams, a loyal friend of the University and member of the Foundation Board and John J. Cali School of Music Advisory Board, as well as a former member of the University Board of Trustees. A dedicated supporter of Montclair State, Williams received the University’s Carpe Diem award in 2005. Williams and his wife, Ingrid, were also generous benefactors to the University, supporting the purchase of a new practice organ for the John J. Cali School of Music and naming a lecture hall in University Hall.

Lt. Charles Kuhn

The University community was saddened by the sudden and untimely death in May of Lt. Charles “Chuck” Kuhn of the University Police Department. A 23-year department veteran, he was a capable and valued leader, who was well-known and admired by the University community. A memorial service for Kuhn, held on campus in June, was attended by more than 150 family members, friends, and colleagues.

Joanne Walsh

The University community was saddened by the passing of Joanne Walsh, a colleague in the Division of Human Resources. Throughout her 23-year career at Montclair State, Walsh was a beloved and well-known member of the University community. She will be remembered for her considerable charitable initiatives, including advocacy for the needy, the homeless, and especially for members of the armed forces serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.
Carrying on our 132-year-old academic mission is quite important here at MSU NU YU (renamed from Montclair State University by its corporate partner, the software company NU YU, in 2035)—which is not to say that we’re not also mindful of the future. We try to strike a balance between the old and the new, tradition and innovation, continuity and change, and the many other balanced catchphrases that NU YU’s automated PR division came up with for this year’s annual report.

We’re proud to announce our Wii School of the Arts, the newest member of our virtual campus, whose physical location is on the server in the bowels of Terabyte Hall. The WSA not only brings our number of cyber-schools to an even dozen, but also expands the definition of Art, from level one virtual museum visits to Kung Fu Seventh Dan. We intend to keep growing and growing, since the frontiers of cyberspace are limited only by petabytes and tuition credits. For information on new programs within the MSU NU YU catalogue, blink on the Red Hawk screen icon and scan downwards and sideways. Long live our credo, Carpe datum!

As for our students, they’re fully plugged in: each entering freshman is assigned a Red Hawk Nudroid, featuring implant options compatible with all soft tissue. As Provost Model 7 proclaimed last year, “Red Hawk Nudroids give our students not just full access to the University but also [Error 404] to the universe itself!” (The Provost has since been rebooted.) We’re trying to get our real-time faculty to follow suit and embrace the new era, with salary inducements toward personality-enhanced video presentations for the digital archives. As of 2038, all our endowed chairs have become dedicated work-stations. Just to reassure our older alums that we haven’t gone totally virtual: through satellite hook-up, we now feature extension campuses all down the Shore, and see our new onsite platform in Ngari, Tibet!

Though the economy continues to show signs of non-recovery, our graduates have managed to get jobs in fields ranging from web3 data entrants to NU YU intermediate-level internships in Outer Cyberia. And for the third straight decade, we’ve beat out Rutgers, which lost its corporate sponsorship last year and will soon be reopening as Rutgers Cyber-Community Colleges (Rx3, franchises available). Meanwhile, we retain our guiding beacon. The AI simulacrum of our University president, PrezSez, is still going strong. With leadership like PrezSez, or a reasonable facsimile thereof, the stars know no limit. Just blink at the Red Hawk NU YU icon, and go!
WELCOME HOME

2011
MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY
HOMECOMING & FAMILY DAY

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 29
Homecoming game vs. Western Connecticut

Helicopter Rides
Student Talent Showcase
Breakfast at Sam’s Place
Homecoming Carnival
Alumni Tailgate, Beer Tasting, and Welcome Tent
…and much more!

FREE PARKING ALL DAY

More information:
www.montclair.edu/homecoming or 973-655-4141
ARTS AND CULTURE
at Montclair State University

Music
The John J. Cali School of Music features concerts and recitals by students, faculty, alumni, and visiting artists.

Dance
Student dance productions such as Works-A-Foot, Dance Collage, and Dance Works are presented throughout the year.

Art
The George Segal Gallery is presenting the painting and sculpture of Carol Brown Goldberg through December 10, 2011.