FOCUS ON INNOVATION

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On the cover: Associate Professor Diana Thomas, director of the Center for Quantitative Obesity Research, writes out her mathematical equation for weight loss.
The theme of our fall issue, Innovation, reflects three of the University’s core values: vision, creativity and adaptability. Our development over the past century into the thriving university of today has been driven by an evolving vision of what Montclair State can become; by creativity in implementing that vision; and by the ability to embrace change in all forms that nurture excellence.

Nowhere is that excellence more evident than in our faculty research, much of it funded by federal agencies such as the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Education, as well as by major corporations such as Microsoft and DuPont. In this issue, you will read about groundbreaking projects that are advancing new ways to treat autism; to prevent and control obesity; and to protect the estimated 300,000 young people who are at risk for human trafficking.

Montclair State’s bold vision for its schools and colleges is the subject of “New Deans Plan for the Future,” a conversation with incoming deans Daniel Gurskis of the College of the Arts and Francine Peterman of the College of Education and Human Services. We are also proud to announce a new Center for Cooperative Media as well as the University’s first fully online master’s programs.

Finally, in “Building for the Future,” you will learn about our plans for a 100,000-square-foot, $55-million research facility, the Center for Environmental and Life Sciences. While the University is engaged in fundraising for the new Center, it is our hope that a portion of the cost will be funded by a statewide bond issue for public and private universities. If approved by voters in November, the bond issue will be the first major state capital investment in higher education in a quarter of a century. I urge you all to vote “yes” for the higher education bond initiative.

I hope you enjoy this issue of Montclair magazine, and I thank you for your continuing support for this and for the next generation of Montclair State students.

Susan A. Cole
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Enjoy the magazine? Have a story idea for us? We want to hear from you.

Please send your letters to editor@mail.montclair.edu.
(We reserve the right to edit letters received.)

“SNOWCOMING” 2011

Loved the Homecoming ’11 spread and all of the coverage! No amount of snow (or fallen trees) could keep that dedicated base of alumni away from campus where they got to enjoy the photo booth, BBQ, Cricket Hill beer tasting, etc. Thanks to the magazine for giving those of us with such fond memories of Montclair State some more memories to move forward with. We can’t wait for Homecoming 2012 on October 13!

– Rebecca Mackay Fitzpatrick ’06 and Chris W. Fitzpatrick ’04

PROUD OF PROFESSORS

I was thrilled to read about two professors of my alma mater being inducted into the New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame. It is an extreme honor, not only for Professors Lynn Schneemeyer and John Siekierka, but also Montclair State to have its own faculty recognized for their research and success. Congratulations to both scientists on such a humbling honor. I always love reading the “Headlines” section of the magazine to catch up on the new and exciting things going on at the University.

– Nicholas A. Fagioli ’80 MA

LASTING LESSONS

At your invitation, I would like to praise my former English professor, Dr. Stephen Earley. He was the best professor I’ve had in all of my educational life. He knew his subject, had great enthusiasm and had great comportment as a teacher. He made you think about his class long before and after it took place. After all these years, I’m still thinking about him!

– Guy DeAngelis ’73

I especially enjoyed the Lasting Lessons and realized I have never truly thanked my professor, William McCreath, enough for his instruction and most importantly his encouragement to follow my dream of an MFA and a college teaching job. I took more than ten classes with him through my four years and he helped me prepare for graduate school. From there I worked through adjunct, temporary, tenure track, tenured, three administrative posts and full professorship. None of this would have been possible if not for Bill.

– Anna Calluori Holcombe ’74

CONNECTING TO TOMORROW

I was excited to read about the new School of Communication and Media. It sounds like students will have the opportunity to get amazing internships and hands-on experience. It’s so important to keep up with the technology—I’m proud to be a Montclair State alumna.

– Janet Finizio ’08
Montclair State University saw its largest number of graduates in May, conferring 3,183 baccalaureate, 1,060 master’s and 19 doctoral degrees. Victoria Reggie Kennedy, president of the Board of Trustees of the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate and daughter of a first-generation college graduate, emphasized the importance of a college education during her remarks: "You are starting your own chain reaction of opportunity for your families that will cascade down to your children and grandchildren."

The event was streamed live on the University website, allowing family members who could not attend to share in the experience. Graduate student speaker Jim Fabros said that his mother, Maria, who lives in the Philippines, joined family and friends to watch him address his class via the webcast. It was a memorable day for all, including members of the class of 1962 who attended in celebration of their 50th reunion.

– Lindsay Kramer

For more photos and information about Commencement, visit montclair.edu/commencement-2012.
6-10. Graduates, families and friends enjoy the moment.

11. Celebrating the 50th anniversary of their graduation, members of the Class of 1962 lead the processional.
The University’s Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health will receive $1.5 million from the state over the next five years to establish the New Jersey Autism Center of Excellence and coordinate statewide autism research and treatment funded by the Governor’s Council for Medical Research and Treatment of Autism. After touring the Ben Samuels Children’s Center in June, New Jersey’s First Lady Mary Pat Christie and Health and Senior Services Commissioner Mary E. O’Dowd announced the grant along with another one to Rutgers University to study the genetics of Autism Spectrum Disorders.

The two universities are the first grant recipients of what will eventually be a total of $8 million in grants for autism research and support. “We are grateful to the Governor’s Council for this major grant,” said President Susan A. Cole at the announcement ceremony. “We are confident that this will enable us to make a measurable and sustained difference in the lives of New Jersey children and their families.”

Susan A. Cole welcomed New Jersey’s First Lady Mary Pat Christie when she visited campus to announce the $1.5-million grant.
Montclair State and UMM Energy Partners, LLC have launched a major public-private construction project to develop an environmentally friendly system for heating, cooling and providing power on campus.

Made possible through the 2009 New Jersey Economic Stimulus Act, the $90 million public-private partnership will enable the University to replace its current heating and cooling system without the University or the state paying for construction costs. UMM Energy Partners, LLC will build the plant on property leased from the University.

The Combined Heating, Cooling and Power (CHCP) plant will provide chilled water for cooling and steam for heat, delivered to campus buildings through a new underground energy distribution system. The project will result in more cost-effective, efficient and reliable delivery of heating, cooling and electrical services to campus buildings.

“Montclair State continues to demonstrate initiative in utilizing public-private partnerships to finance both facility expansions and infrastructure improvements,” says President Susan A. Cole, adding that the CHCP plant also reflects the University’s commitment to environmental conservation and alternative energy.

Environmentally Friendly Energy Comes to Campus

Montclair Community Joins Freshman Class Reading Project

This year’s freshmen are reading The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, and the University has invited the Montclair community to read along. The critically acclaimed book by Rebecca Skloot, which is being read at universities and in communities across the country, tells the story of how cells from Lacks—a poor African-American tobacco farmer from Virginia who died of cervical cancer in 1951—played a crucial role in medical breakthroughs in vaccinations, cloning, in vitro fertilization and gene mapping.

“This is a book that will engage students in the heart of intellectual inquiry—in critical thinking, reading and writing, which is what we expect them to do when they enter college,” said Melinda Knight, director of the Center for Writing Excellence and member of the Montclair Book Faculty Advisory Committee.

The Montclair Book program, created in 2011 to give first-year students a shared reading experience, uses the text in all required courses to develop analytical skills needed for success in college. Students also participate in book-related events, including an essay contest and a September visit by Henrietta Lacks’ son, David “Sonny” Lacks, Jr.

– Lindsay Kramer
$1 Million Gift Funds Center for Entrepreneurship

Mimi and Edwin Feliciano ’82 have established a new center for entrepreneurship on campus with a $1-million gift to the University.

“It’s a wonderful thing to be able to provide vital resources to Montclair State students,” said Mimi Feliciano.

“Thanks to the generosity of the Felicianos, entrepreneurship will become an integral component of the management education experience for School of Business students and will prepare students for success in a competitive global marketplace,” said President Susan A. Cole.

A member of the School of Business Advisory Board, Mimi Feliciano is the CEO of Lincoln Park Healthcare. Edwin Feliciano is the company’s vice president of marketing. “My husband and I relate to the challenges facing students today, and we hope to provide the kind of support we needed when we took over my family’s healthcare business,” she said.

The Felicianos will receive the University’s Carpe Diem Award at the October 25 University Foundation Annual Dinner.

Vocal Accord Shines on European Tour

The Montclair State University Vocal Accord, a 24-voice chamber choir, traveled to Europe this summer to perform a repertoire of sacred and secular selections by American composers. The group appeared at venues in Austria and Italy.

“One of the highlights was the European premiere of She Walks in Beauty, a University Singers Commission composed by Montclair State alumnus Martin Sedek,” said Heather J. Buchanan, associate professor of music and director of Choral Activities. “Other highlights included overwhelming audience responses—we received numerous standing ovations, and at some concerts we had to tell them ‘enough.’”

Vocal Accord, whose members are also part of the Montclair State University Singers, performed first at St. Peterskirche in Vienna and several times during their stay in Graz, Austria, where they were guests of the University of Music and Performing Arts. The tour ended with a concert at the historic Chiesa Santa Maria dei Miracoli in Venice, Italy.

Fall Schedule for Peak Performances:

**DOG DAYS**, Sep 29, 30 and Oct 5, 6, 7  
Dog Days is a new and dark contemporary musical comedy combining opera and rock music.

**ARTEK, “I’ll Never See the Stars Again,”** Oct 20  
ARTEK’s musicians provide spirited performances of baroque music.

**SHANGHAI QUARTET**, Oct 21  
Changing the meaning of a string quartet, Shanghai Quartet’s concerts are not to be missed.

**LA DANCE PROJECT**, Oct 25, 26, 27, 28  
Choreographer Benjamin Millepied redefines dance for the 21st Century.

When it comes to live shows, there is no better deal around than Montclair State’s Peak Performances, where you can enjoy concerts, theater productions and dance for only $15.

To order tickets or get more information visit peakperfs.org.
Two former Montclair State students who are golf pros at New Jersey clubs qualified for the U.S. Open this summer, giving golf fans in the state some locals to cheer for.

Mark McCormick and Brian Gaffney qualified at Canoe Brook Country Club in Summit, New Jersey, on June 5 with the same score, tying for third, then each going on to play for the first time in the U.S. Open the following week in San Francisco. When they qualified, the headline on NorthJersey.com declared, “NJ drought for U.S. Open is over.”

McCormick ’85, head pro at Suburban Golf Club in Union, New Jersey, has tried to qualify 25 times. When he got to San Francisco for the U.S. Open, he played a practice round with golf legend Phil Michelson. Gaffney, a pro in Rumson, New Jersey, and the state PGA Player of the Year, stood near Tiger Woods on the driving range.

McCormick was featured in Golf Digest and wrote about his U.S. Open adventures this summer in a column that appeared in the New York Post. “I got some great roars today—probably four or five times—that were special. Those moments made this a week I’ll never forget, playing in front of good, big galleries and playing well,” McCormick wrote in the Post. “…This is my greatest golfing experience ever.”

A team of student and faculty researchers visited a dozen sites across the Passaic Valley watershed over the summer to investigate the effects of an invasive plant species on the state’s freshwater supply. Geoscience majors Mariany Segura ’14 and Mariya Guzner ’15 were selected to work with Associate Professors Dirk Vanderklein, plant ecologist, and Josh Galster, a surface hydrologist, on what they call the “Japanese Knotweed Project.”

Japanese knotweed is found in numerous countries and 39 states, including New Jersey. Previous student research shows that knotweed is responsible, in part, for depleting New Jersey’s freshwater supply—perhaps causing up to a 12 percent loss from a Passaic River tributary daily. Those findings are significant, researchers say, since New Jersey faces future water shortages.

Over the summer, the team collected data to measure the plant’s impact on the region, and will calculate those effects this fall. Segura and Guzner plan to present their findings at the Montclair State Research Symposium and Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Ecological Society of America in the spring of 2013. “Our work is important because it concerns our local water supply,” Segura says, “and it’s great to do research in the field, in addition to the academic curriculum.”
Ten teams of aspiring technology entrepreneurs are calling Montclair State home this fall as they participate in an intensive 12-week technology accelerator and business boot camp called LaunchPad 1.

TechLaunch is New Jersey’s new investor-led technology accelerator that helps transform innovative concepts into successful, commercially viable business models through its LaunchPad 1 program. TechLaunch has partnered with the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA), Casabona Ventures and JumpStart NJ Angel Network to help a select group of portfolio companies pursue their start-up dreams.
While the seeds of a successful start-up can stem from doodles scribbled on a cocktail napkin, the program provides the advice, encouragement and coaching that can jumpstart success. Among other things, the 2012 portfolio companies are developing a social media platform for athletes, smartphone parental controls that prevent texting while driving, an online pop culture lesson library for teachers, a community-based mobile social networking app and an event-based photo-sharing service.

Funding comes from the NJEDA and TechLaunch investors, providing each participating portfolio company with $20,000 in seed funding, expert mentoring, workspace and access to potential investors. In return, TechLaunch will receive a 10-percent stake in the fledgling companies.

In the past, New Jersey’s would-be entrepreneurs looked outside the state for funding from an accelerator program. TechLaunch has changed that. “We’ve attracted top-tier talent,” says TechLaunch founder and CEO Mario M. Casabona, a seasoned entrepreneur and venture capitalist.

LaunchPad 1 runs from August through October. Activities include one-on-one mentoring and coaching from more than 75 successful entrepreneurs and angel investors, regular guest speakers and networking opportunities, weekly dinners and social events and trips to Fortune 100 companies.

“We’re taking our teams through a training program that covers topics ranging from strategic planning to product plans, intellectual property and technologies, and from sales and marketing to investor pitches,” explains TechLaunch Executive Director Travis Kahn. The ultimate goal: to help the budding entrepreneurs develop solid business plans that will attract follow-up funding from investors.

“Montclair State is a perfect venue. It not only provides easy access for New Jersey residents as well as state-of-the-art facilities, but it is ideally situated just 14 miles west of New York City, the current tech and investment hub of the East Coast,” says Casabona.

LaunchPad 1’s inaugural class of passionate innovators enjoys access to campus workspace, conference rooms and even optional housing, and the program also provides professors and students with the opportunity to interact with the aspiring entrepreneurs.

LaunchPad 1 will culminate on November 1 with Demo Day, when, armed with viable business plans, the portfolio companies will pitch their start-ups to a select audience of qualified angel investors, venture capitalists, business executives, professors and technology experts. “Our expectation is that they will be impressed by an intriguing suite of portfolio companies poised for success,” predicts Casabona.

“TechLaunch is leveraging New Jersey’s technology-based assets and creating an environment that allows our most promising entrepreneurs to grow and ultimately deliver products to market,” Caren Franzini, New Jersey Economic Development Authority chief executive officer, says on the TechLaunch website.

“TechLaunch offers a wonderful opportunity to incipient tech companies seeking a firm grounding for a successful future,” says President Susan A. Cole. “Montclair State University is pleased to be the home for this important program.”

“TechLaunch is leveraging New Jersey’s technology-based assets and creating an environment that allows our most promising entrepreneurs to grow and ultimately deliver products to market.”

— Caren Franzini, NJ Economic Development Authority
or many adults, a graduate degree is a dream that becomes further out of reach as the demands of daily life pile up. Work, family obligations and paying the bills make it difficult to even think about going back to school.

To help make that dream a reality, Montclair State has taken two of its established master’s degree programs and put them fully online, so students can get the same quality degree at home that they can on campus: an MA in Child Advocacy and Policy and an MA in Educational Leadership.

“This is an exciting initiative for the University,” says Jamieson A. Bilella, associate dean for Extended Learning and Special Academic Programs. “The expansion of the University’s offerings online provides students outside the University’s traditional geographic reach the opportunity to receive the same degree as their on-campus peers, with the same faculty, and is ideal for working professionals.”

With these quality online programs, the University, which has offered online courses
since 2008, is riding the wave of a growing trend in higher education today. Additional degree programs are planned for the future to meet the demands of the accelerating workplace and the needs of students.

Dean of The Graduate School, Joan Ficke, points out that the flexibility of online learning is particularly attractive to graduate students. “Graduate students tend to be working professionals; driving to campus just doesn’t work for them,” she says. “Online programs are attractive to people who may not be free until 10:30 p.m.”

Online courses and degree programs have also become increasingly popular because many younger graduate students are most comfortable using their computers to study and learn. For many recent graduates, even those without the demands of career and family, online programs hold appeal. “People are much more used to the technology now and are comfortable with online learning,” Ficke says. “In fact, many prefer it. When I attend conventions and seminars, the most common question is, ‘What are your online programs?’”

Bilella agrees, noting that one factor behind the move into online degree programs was the popularity of the University’s many online courses. “We constantly survey our students to determine their satisfaction level with online learning, and they tell us they’d like to see additional online courses. Faculty resources for online teaching and development have also been increased. The natural next step in this progression is the delivery of fully online programs.”

Bilella notes that an advantage of the Child Advocacy online master’s program is that it builds on the University’s post-baccalaureate certificate program in the same field. The certificate program is already delivered online, and the certificate program and the master’s degree program have the first five courses in common.

“Our master’s in Child Advocacy and Policy program is unique in New Jersey and we will be the first to offer the program online,” says Bilella. “Educational Leadership was chosen because of Montclair State’s reputation within the educational field, and because of the statewide demand for these programs.”

“Those who have either completed the Child Advocacy certificate or are in the process of doing so can easily apply to The Graduate School for the master’s degree program,” Bilella says. “Since the five courses they’ve already completed will go right into their master’s degree, those students have the opportunity to complete their MA in about three semesters.”

The programs are sequenced during the spring, summer and fall semesters. Since they are graduate programs, students must gain acceptance into The Graduate School in order to enroll. Admission is selective and an applicant’s aptitude for online learning will be taken into consideration. “Online programs are not for everyone,” says Bilella. “It takes people who have maturity and self-discipline to be successful in online learning.”

Initially, the new online programs will be available to those who live in New Jersey, New York, Texas, Georgia, Idaho and Utah, where there is high demand for these degrees. Because of the University’s regional accreditation status and curriculum standards, those states have granted exemptions to allow the University to offer the programs there. “The regulations are very complicated,” Bilella says. “We continue to identify additional states that are a fit for our programs and which meet the education needs of their constituents.”

As with traditional degrees, Ficke emphasizes, the key to successful online programs is quality. “Montclair State has a reputation for delivering quality programs, and the University and faculty have worked hard to ensure that quality translates into the online delivery,” she says. “While some other institutions may have moved quickly to offer online programs before us, we chose to wait until we were sure the programs measured up to our standards of excellence.”

Learn more about the programs and about online learning at montclair.edu/online, where there is also a “Guide to Becoming a Successful Online Learner.”
### Online Program for MA in Child Advocacy and Policy

**Spring 2013**
- CHAD 501 Introduction to Child Advocacy
- CHAD 502 Child Abuse and Neglect

**Summer 2013**
- CHAD 503 Current Social Issues in Child Advocacy
- CHAD 504 Children and Justice

**Fall 2013**
- CHAD 505 Forensic Interviewing of Children
- CHAD 510 Culturally Competent Practice in Child Advocacy*

**Spring 2014**
- CHAD 521 Substance Abuse and Family Crisis
- CHAD 522 Family Empowerment Models

**Summer 2014**
- CHAD 540 Child Welfare Policy
- CHAD 602 Child Advocacy Policy and Practice

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### Online Program for MA in Educational Leadership

**Spring 2013**
- ELAD 510 Effective Leadership in a Diverse Society
- ELRS 504 Action Research

**Summer 2013**
- ELAD 635 Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
- ELAD 521 Education Law

**Fall 2013**
- ELAD 611 Ethical Leadership and Decision Making
- ELAD 540 Differentiated Supervision

**Spring 2014**
- ELAD 680 Leading Curriculum Change for Student Achievement
- ELAD 622 School Finance

**Summer 2014**
- ELAD 614 Transformative Leadership Practices
- ELAD 615 Internship in School Leadership*
- ELAD 543 Leadership and the Learning Organization

**Fall 2014**
- ELAD 690 School and Community Relations
- ELAD 609 Theory and Research in Administration
- ELAD 610 Fieldwork in District Leadership*

*Students seeking to apply for the New Jersey principal and supervisor certification upon completion of the degree must register for ELAD 615 and ELAD 610.
n today's digital world, a university website is its calling card—the first introduction for prospective students, faculty, donors and other key audiences. In fact, a recent study by consultants Noel-Levitz found that nearly 50 percent of prospective students—and 60 percent of their parents—cited a negative experience with college websites as a factor that lowered their interest in the college. Nearly 20 percent of students indicated that they would not apply to an institution if they found its website frustrating or difficult to use.

“Our website is the doorway to Montclair State,” says Deborah Gaines, executive director of strategic communications. “It has to be enticing if we want people to enter.”

Together with an outside design consultant, the University’s web services team worked with stakeholders throughout the Montclair State community to rethink not only the way the site looks, but also the way it delivers information.

In addition to expanded video, social networking and search capabilities, the new site features a greatly expanded section for alumni. Montclair.edu/alumni is packed with features, networking tools and information about more than 100 alumni-related programs and events that the University organizes each year.

“With more than 100,000 living alumni, including 34,000 from the past 12 years alone, Montclair State has the networking and buying power to offer significant benefits to its graduates,” says Jeanne Marano, executive director of alumni relations.

Alumni-oriented features include MONTCLAIRconnect, a password-protected networking site; more than 15 affinity groups, ranging from athletics to communications; a career resources seminar series; and a new Perks card offering discounts to local and national products and services. Alumni can also learn about upcoming events and view and download galleries of photos from recent gatherings.

Red Hawk sports fans will also find expanded coverage of Montclair State’s 17 Division III athletic teams, including live stats, calendars and links to the athletic department’s Facebook, Twitter and RSS feeds.

“Our sports fans are a passionate bunch, and we’re happy to be able to give them the real-time updates they’re looking for,” says Mike Scala, director of sports information.

Check montclair.edu often for updated news and information about the University.
New Deans Plan for the Future

By Amy Wagner

Daniel Gurskis and Francine Peterman look to tell their colleges’ success stories

Montclair State welcomes two new deans this fall: Daniel Gurskis, dean of the College of the Arts, and Francine Peterman, dean of the College of Education and Human Services. An Emmy Award-winning producer, Gurskis comes to Montclair State from Brooklyn College of the City University of New York, where he was a professor, chair of the Department of Film, and a special assistant to the president. Peterman—a frequent writer and speaker on topics related to urban teacher education and assessment—joins Montclair State from Queens College of the City University of New York, where she was a professor and dean of education. They recently told us a little about themselves, what drew them to Montclair State and the plans they have for their colleges.

Q: What are your first impressions of Montclair State?
A: This is an exciting place that’s undergone significant academic and physical changes. Any university with its own on-campus diner is doing something right!

Q: What drew you to the College of the Arts?
A: Montclair State is clearly on the ascent, gaining in reputation through bold initiatives, many of which are associated with the College of the Arts. There’s plenty of opportunity for someone in my position to contribute to the growing success of the University as a whole.

Q: What are the college’s greatest strengths?
A: Definitely the people—students, faculty, staff and alumni.

Q: What would you most like to accomplish in the next few years?
A: I am absolutely committed to student success, faculty advancement and increased visibility for both the College and the University. I hope to build on the many good things that have been accomplished in those areas.

Q: Will you teach any classes?
A: Unfortunately, there are only 24 hours in a day. As I look at the scope of the position of dean, it’s hard to see how there would be enough time for me to teach a class—or at least teach it well.
Q: What will you most miss about teaching?
A: I really enjoy being in the classroom. I’ll miss the give-and-take with students.

Q: You won an Emmy Award for producing the documentary *James Stewart’s Wonderful Life*. Where do you keep your Emmy?
A: The Emmy is on a shelf in my home office. She’s always looking over my shoulder, keeping an eye on what I’m doing.

Q: Do you have a favorite screen hero?

Q: Do you still plan to write or make films?
A: Woody Allen once said, “If you want to make God laugh, tell Him your future plans.” I’d love to continue to write and make films. In fact, my most recent screenplay is for a film scheduled to go into production later this year. But, as I’ve told the director and the producer, if they need a major rewrite from me, the time for that was before I became dean.

Q: Will you move to Montclair?
A: I live on Long Island. My wife, Jennifer McLogan, is a reporter who covers Long Island for CBS 2, so for the near term at least, we’re pretty much tethered there.

Q: Is there a single thing you cannot do without?
A: First thing in the morning, a couple of cups of the darkest French roast I can pour. The rest of the day, my three-year-old MacBook Pro.

Q: What do you like to do on your day off?
A: Day off? You mean I get a day off?

“Montclair State is clearly on the ascent, gaining in reputation through bold initiatives.”
Q: What has impressed you most about Montclair State?
A: Its commitment to the preparation of the best teachers, educators, counselors and health professionals to serve in schools and communities. I see this commitment through its outstanding reputation across the country, its ongoing work in Newark, the quality of the programs and the intellectual engagement of the faculty members in teaching, research and service.

Q: What are the greatest strengths of the College of Education and Human Services?
A: The College has a deep and ongoing commitment to making a difference in the lives of children and families through robust, responsive programs and initiatives. Our faculty members lead these efforts and are dedicated to using their research to resolve problems by working collaboratively with community partners to respond to complex concerns related to health, education and social issues.

Q: What do you most look forward to in your role as dean?
A: I'm just beginning to get to know [the College's] exceptional faculty, staff and students. I can't wait to get to know them better.

Q: What would you most like to accomplish in the next few years?
A: One of my enduring questions is: How do we know? Over the next few years, I look forward to many conversations to help us define the evidence and practices that differentiate the College of Education and Human Services and its programs, centers, faculty and graduates from others throughout the country and the world. Documenting and telling the story of our successes and what we have learned is an important task for every community, including our own.

Q: Why did you decide to become a teacher?
A: I have always wanted to be a teacher. My father used to tell the story of my coming home from school in the fourth grade and exclaiming, “I want to join the Future Teachers Club!” Much to the chagrin of my fourth grade teacher—who imagined me a mathematician and computer scientist—and who still reminds me of his dream, I chose teaching as a career. It's still how I most define myself.

Q: Will you continue your research?
A: Yes, I am currently studying two things: the creation of a culture of assessment and the characteristics of settings that contribute to developing innovation and creativity. In particular, I am interested in how we use information to inform and improve our practice and shape our organizations to ensure that everyone involved—faculty, staff, students, graduates and those we serve outside the University—creatively and collaboratively solves community problems.

Q: Who is your personal hero?
A: My intellectual mentor is the late Seymour Sarason, a noted authority on school reform who insisted on the importance of bringing people together to effect change. I worked on a school reform project with him early in my career and will always appreciate how carefully he listened to everyone, so that each of us felt special and very “heard.”

Q: What is your greatest extravagance?
A: Everyone knows I love food! My friends say there's no need for Zagat's when I'm around!

Q: How do you like Montclair?
A: I love this beautiful area! Now I understand why they call New Jersey the Garden State.
In 2010, Elton V. Robertson ’64 decided to do something special to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his arrival as a student at Montclair State College.

The retired Temple University professor established the Dr. Elton V. Robertson Technology Award, which grants a second semester junior in mathematics education $1,500 to buy educational technology for the classroom.

While Robertson’s estate plan will also include a generous bequest to perpetuate his gift, he hopes that friends and family will continue to provide additional support to his award fund.

“Having the opportunity to teach mathematics through technology was a dream come true. Thank you, Dr. Robertson, for giving me the opportunity of a lifetime, and for giving the children of Newark imagination, passion, the opportunity to travel at the speed of light and a different outlook on math—and technology.”

– Fabiana Restrepo ’12

For more information, visit montclair.edu/plannedgiving or contact Judy Echeveria Linder ’83 at 973-655-5454 or judy.linder@montclair.edu

Create your own legacy and make a difference.
Diana Thomas, PhD, is an associate professor of mathematics and director of the Center for Quantitative Obesity Research at Montclair State.
Researchers use mathematics to help dieters lose weight

By Laura Griffin

Through research performed at Montclair State, Associate Professor Diana Thomas and her colleagues have proven mathematically that increased exercise does not rev up the metabolism or ensure weight loss; the only way to effectively lose weight is to simply eat less. Now she is seeing the practical results of her equations.

“The question became, ‘Can we really help people lose weight using mathematics?’” the director of the Center for Quantitative Obesity Research at Montclair State says. And the answer, they found, is, “Yes.” The mathematical model, developed in collaboration with a team of researchers and mathematicians, could prove helpful in battling the obesity epidemic in the United States and may even change the way people diet.

Thomas’ research on mathematical modeling of weight has received funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and helped more than 70 study participants lose weight at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In one collaborative NIH-funded study at Pennington Biomedical, patients who used Thomas’ model lost more than eight percent of their body weight. “When they told me how well it worked, and how it improved patients’ health, that’s what changed everything for me,” Thomas says.

Her energy balance equation calculates how much, or how little, a dieter should eat to lose weight based on such factors as height, weight, age and gender.

Counselors at Pennington Biomedical are then able to adjust diet plans and behavior counseling accordingly and know for certain whether participants are sticking with their diets, says Corby Martin, a researcher at the center.

“Diana’s work is immensely significant,” Martin says. “My research and our studies here are based on Diana’s work and our collaboration with Montclair State University. It serves as a foundation for our clinical trials and makes it easier for patients to follow their diets.”

As participants begin using the calculator (available at montclair.edu/csam/center-quantitative-obesity/links/), they plot their weight change on easy-to-read graphs that show a “zone” or range that corresponds to the expected weight change according to physiology. If participants closely follow their diet plans, their weight should fall into the zone. The calculator also can help people set realistic weight loss goals. By plugging in a dietary intake goal, they can see the estimated weight changes over time.

It takes only a small adjustment to get back in the zone, and as patients see they’re losing weight by adhering to their diets, they become motivated to stay on track. “Compared to calorie counting, this is much easier,” says Thomas.

Weight loss counselors at Pennington Biomedical agree. “There’s something about being in the zone that motivates them,” says Allison Davis, a counselor at Pennington Biomedical using the model.

“Participants really respond. I think it makes them feel more in control. And I love being able to show them their personal graph that shows if they stick to the program this is how much weight they will lose.”
In the Zone

The question became, 'Can we really help people lose weight using mathematics?'

– Diana Thomas

Thomas and researchers at Pennington Biomedical, Duke University, Maastricht University and the Technical University of Lisbon also collaborated on another study that applied the first law of thermodynamics to explain why exercising, while good for you, does little to help you lose weight.

Again, mathematics proved the point. “If the data is not telling you what you think it will, then your hypothesis is wrong. Data doesn’t lie,” says Thomas. “We were trying to understand why people weren’t losing weight if they said they were exercising and eating a certain amount. The data shows that your metabolism doesn’t increase when you exercise. Vigorous exercise makes you hungrier and you tend to eat more.”

Exercise does, however, make people feel and look better. “But if you’re looking at exercise for weight control, forget it,” she says. “If you work out very, very hard, everything is going to be against you for weight loss.”

Montclair State and Pennington Biomedical’s collaboration continues as they work together on a groundbreaking NIH study, applying Thomas’ mathematical equation to pregnant women to help them gain the optimum amount of weight during pregnancy and also to prevent diabetes through weight loss in women who recently had gestational diabetes. The NIH funding for the $3.5 million Pennington Biomedical study aims to improve outcomes for both mother and baby.

Thomas’ passion for this research is rooted in personal experience. While you would never guess it to look at her now, by the end of her first pregnancy 12 years ago, she weighed in at 179 pounds. Then she had to go about losing 70 pounds. Two years later, she began working on her initial studies about fetal and maternal weight gain, and she kept her subsequent pregnancy weight gain to the traditionally prescribed 25 pounds.

“This is very personal for me,” she says. “I’m not the only woman who gained a lot of weight during pregnancy. I care a lot about women’s health and was shocked to find that so many of the widely publicized weight recommendations for pregnant women are outdated and often based on conclusions from studies of men and non-pregnant women.”

The latest collaborative study with Pennington Biomedical will involve more than 300 women, starting at the beginning of their pregnancies and following them through delivery, giving them guidelines for how much to eat and how much weight they should gain in each trimester based on the math.

“We hope to be able to improve the mother and the baby’s health in a way that will have impact in the long run,” Thomas says.

While Thomas originally thought she would be a math professor, using mathematics to fight obesity and improve women’s health has taken her career in a different direction, leading to speaking engagements and media interest. She’s presented at the University of Alabama, George Mason University and Rutgers University, as well as at conferences in New York and China.

Last year, the results of a study she co-authored linking a decrease in workplace physical activity to the obesity epidemic made it into The New York Times, USA Today and Shape magazine.

The online calculator for predicted weight loss also has garnered some attention including another mention in The New York Times, because it is designed so that anyone can plug in their numbers and see what it will take to lose weight. Thomas’s team is also working on an app for a handheld diet adherence calculator. “That way, people can check it anytime, anywhere,” she says. “It eliminates the need for calorie counting.”

Montclair State’s collaboration with Pennington Biomedical allows Thomas’ students to see how the science and math they learn in the classroom have real-world applications.

“We train students in health-related fields to be part of a medical research team,” Thomas says. “That may mean hosting research visitors from around the world, writing grants and papers or directly working with patients.”
After more than a decade of growth and success in scientific research and student enrollment, the College of Science and Mathematics is looking to the future with a planned 100,000-square-foot, $55-million, state-of-the-art research center.

“The hard work of our faculty and staff has moved us to a point of more and enhanced research, significantly greater grant support and much higher enrollments,” says College of Science and Mathematics Dean Robert Prezant. “But we’re out of room. We want to continue to expand our research programs to extend the opportunities for the discovery phase of education that in turn supports our students and their future opportunities.”

The proposed Center for Environmental and Life Sciences (CELS) will usher in the next generation of scientific research at Montclair State and is essential to attracting more students interested in careers in the sciences. “This Center is key to building upon our reputation as a growing research institution,” Prezant says. “It will mean ensuring recognition for our faculty’s research, and better placing us on the map. We have strong research-based science and teaching. But when we give tours to researchers and students who want to come here, we need a centralized state-of-the-art facility to demonstrate our continued commitment to scientific excellence.”
With the growing interest in careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), students considering those fields often look at university options outside New Jersey. In fact, reports show 30,000 college-bound students, including many science majors, leave the state each year—placing New Jersey first, nationally, in the net loss of students. This outmigration of talent has negative impacts for the state’s economy and its higher-ed institutions.

University administrators and researchers hope that having a state-of-the-art research facility such as the Center will help change that. “Research brings science to life in a way that the mandatory laboratory courses cannot,” says Johannes Schelvis, chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. “Many top STEM students look for research opportunities before committing to a specific college or university. If we want to be in the race for these top students and want to keep top talent in New Jersey, it is essential to continue to enhance our research programs. The new CELS building will be a significant step forward in this effort.”

Preparing for Tomorrow

The Center will be devoted to environmental and pharmaceutical life sciences research and will allow the College’s collaborative culture to flourish, advancing science and technology—especially in areas of sustaining natural resources and improving human health.

While New Jersey has been a leader in pharmaceutical research, its environmental record is less impressive, “This Center is key to building upon our reputation as a growing research institution.”

– Dean Robert Prezant, College of Science and Mathematics
with a history of early unfettered industrialization and subsequent decades of cleaning up that unchecked legacy. Montclair State leaders see the Center for Environmental and Life Sciences playing a pivotal role in research that leads not only to medical breakthroughs but also to innovations that can be applied both locally and globally.

“We have researchers in environmental science and pharmaceutical and medicinal science,” Prezant says. “Both our research and education programs have been nurtured and designed with New Jersey in mind.”

While the University is engaged in fundraising for the building, administrators hope a portion of the Center’s cost will be funded through a statewide bond issue for public and private universities, which, if approved by voters in November, will be the first major state capital investment in higher education in two decades.

While construction has not yet begun, the design is the stuff of which scientists dream—from the innovative workspace for collaboration to updated laboratories and seminar rooms.

“We hope to spur on some cutting-edge research between disciplines here,” says Matthew Gorring, chair of Earth and Environmental Studies. “It will break down the silos that exist now, and, for us, it opens up interesting possibilities for working with our colleagues in chemistry and biology on interdisciplinary projects. The CELS building will be a tremendous recruiting tool.”

Montclair State researchers already collaborate across some disciplines, but the lack of sufficient up-to-date facilities makes that research logistically challenging and limits their ability to obtain some grants from the National Institutes of Health and private research funders.

The College of Science and Mathematics has existing scientific research relationships with pharmaceutical companies and environmental consulting firms that will be enhanced with the Center.

A Place for New Discoveries

Professor John Siekierka, director of the Margaret and Herman Sokol Institute for Pharmaceutical Life Sciences (which will have the top floor of the new building), already contracts with Celgene Global Health to study parasitic diseases. Researchers in his laboratory, along with Sokol Chair of Chemistry and Professor David Rotella in chemistry and biochemistry, perform research that could lead to new treatments for river blindness and elephantiasis, both of which are serious, debilitating diseases caused by parasitic nematodes in tropical regions, affecting millions of people.

“We need specialized labs for this work,” Siekierka says. “In our case, we’ve set up a collaboration with Louisiana State University, and we plan to send some of our work to their labs.” In short, he says, CELS is “sorely needed.”

The CELS building is also designed to accommodate “incubators” for private start-up research firms. Currently Montclair State has one such firm, housed in the basement of Richardson Hall, where researchers at SIROM Scientific Solutions specialize in environmentally friendly solutions to legacy contamination problems such as reducing the amount of lead in soil. The new building will have space to welcome more.

Rotella says that on the practical side, having modern labs and research facilities not only “allows us to be very competitive when trying to obtain research grants” but it also will be more cost efficient. “Richardson Hall is 30 years old; the serviceable lifespan of the building is coming to an end,” Rotella says. “It’s expensive to heat, cool and maintain. We shouldn’t spend money on things that don’t have a good return on the investment.”

On the scientific side, he says, the new building is “extremely important because that environment creates the opportunity to collaborate outside your discipline and to build on ideas and innovative research.”

Researchers are hoping the CELS building will be ready to move into in a few years. “The timing is excellent. We have a new major in sustainability science, that, if approved in Trenton this fall, would begin in September 2013,” Gorring says. “CELS is a building that will take us into the future.”

Prezant focuses on what it will mean for the students: “Discovery comes through research,” he says. “When students discover something new, something no one knew before, they are hooked. Creating opportunities for discovery is the life blood of STEM education.”
The victims are vulnerable—often girls and boys ages 12 to 14 who have run away from home or are in foster care. They are lured, usually via the Internet, by men with the promise of better lives. Instead, they end up working as prostitutes, with their “saviors” becoming their pimps, advertising their services on the web.

The FBI has more than doubled its human trafficking investigations since 2004, and estimates that as many as 300,000 children and teens in the United States are at risk each year for becoming victims of sex trafficking.

Now a team of three researchers from the Montclair State School of Business is trying to help put an end to the sex trafficking of
Their yearlong study will focus on understanding the mindset, vocabulary and search patterns of “johns” who use networked technologies such as the Internet, cell phones and social media to buy the sexual services of exploited children. Bryan, assistant professor of Management; Malaga, professor of Information and Operations Management; and Poucki, a post-doctoral fellow and adjunct professor, will investigate the ways johns search for and find victims online and create networked communities on both the East and West Coasts.

“We hope our research will make a positive contribution to the development of technology-based interventions in the war against this crime,” Malaga says.

The World’s Fastest-Growing Criminal Industry
According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, human trafficking is the world’s fastest-growing criminal industry. “This form of modern-day slavery has the dubious distinction of ranking alongside the trade in illegal arms as the second-largest international criminal industry, trailing only drug dealing,” says Rane Johnson-Stempson, principal research director for education and scholarly communication at Microsoft Research Connections.

“Microsoft has a stake in ensuring that its technologies are not contributing to crime, particularly crimes against children. Their research will yield valuable insights into technology’s role in child sex trafficking, and we are excited to be collaborating with them,” Johnson-Stempson adds.

Bryan brings more than 15 years of experience in conducting hundreds of in-depth interviews to the study. “Because we’re doing exploratory research that hasn’t been done before, this will be an especially challenging study,” says Bryan, who expects to interview as many as 100 johns to learn what compels them to engage in the trafficking of children.

Malaga, an IT and search expert, will help develop interview questions and analyze data. “We’ll be asking johns how they used networked technologies to search for, procure and engage with sex workers. We’re primarily interested in how they search, which sites they use and how they connect with their victims,” he explains.

Poucki, whose expertise is international human trafficking, will analyze chat-room discussions to discover the hidden vocabulary and encoded messages used by pimps, johns and victims.

Rachel Swaner is a principal research associate at the New York City-based Center for Court Innovation. The Center, which is dedicated to helping the justice system assist victims and reduce crime through
The magazine of Montclair State University

FEATURES  ●  Out of the Shadows

innovative local, national and international programs, has published several key studies concerning the commercial sexual exploitation of children, or CSEC. As the project’s research associate, she will help spearhead the team’s recruitment of johns for interviews.

Cracking the Code

The team plans to interview a number of johns, ranging from those looking for companionship to those who actively seek to sexually exploit children.

“Finding johns who are willing to participate in the study is the hardest part of the research,” explains Malaga. To meet this challenge, they will go about it in two ways. First, they will partner with several “john schools,” which are alternatives to prison where offenders attend educational programs similar to those for people convicted of driving under the influence. They will also recruit directly online from the sites that perpetrators frequent.

According to Bryan, the group of johns who actively seek to exploit underage victims will be the most difficult to recruit for the interviews.

Bryan stresses the importance of establishing and maintaining an objective rapport throughout each interview despite the difficult—and repugnant—nature of the subject matter. “I start each interview with an unconditional positive regard. If interview subjects sense your bias, they won’t open up,” she says. “I’ll be using a Rogerian, or open-ended, respondent-driven interview technique to crack the code and learn just how johns search for victims online, exchange information, as well as establish and nurture online information networks.”

She notes that there is a growing group of johns who regularly and openly visit a proliferating number of human trafficking review boards and chat rooms to share stories. “We’re asking the big questions. We want to know how this internal community works and exchanges information. We want

“Our team’s overall mindset is that technology is the tool that will win this fight.”

– Nicole Bryan
to know to what extent this anonymous online community encourages the involvement and active participation of johns who might otherwise be stopped by feelings of shame and guilt," Bryan says.

**Fighting Crime with Technology**

In addition to the grant awarded to Montclair State, the Microsoft Digital Crimes Unit and Microsoft Research has awarded grants to five other Canadian and American researchers, hoping to glean vital and invaluable data about the illicit use of technologies to advertise, buy, sell and sexually exploit children.

“Exploration of the use of technology in sex trafficking is at a beginning state," says Malaga. “Our eventual goal is to develop disruptive interventions. If, for example, we find that search engines are used to find sites advertising sex workers, the search engines could remove those sites or even redirect anyone who clicks on them to a law enforcement page.”

Ultimately, Microsoft hopes to develop technologies to combat the illegal trade of people for commercial sexual exploitation, forced labor or other forms of contemporary enslavement based on the researchers’ cumulative data. “The findings and insights from these projects will drive advancements in the fight against human trafficking," Johnson-Stempson predicts.

The Montclair State grant continues Microsoft’s ongoing commitment to developing innovative technologies to stop the criminal online exploitation of children, including a tool that helps find and remove images of child pornography from the Internet by tracking the “PhotoDNA.”

In July, Bryan and Poucki participated in a panel discussion on human trafficking at a Microsoft Research Faculty Summit in Washington. The team intends to present findings at a panel on corporate social responsibility in 2013.

“As a management professor, I am interested in corporate social responsibility and companies that are trying to do the right thing," Bryan notes. “This project shows that Microsoft is trying to be proactive and not allow human trafficking to flourish on its technology.”

The researchers are pleased to find themselves helping combat this crime with research using the same tools exploited by the perpetrators themselves.

“Our goal is really to understand how the process works among johns who exploit minors," says Bryan. “Our team’s overall mindset is that technology is the tool that will win this fight.”

*We hope our research will make a positive contribution to the development of technology-based interventions in the war against this crime.*

– Ross Malaga
Professor, School of Business
When Tropical Storm Irene barreled through New Jersey in August 2011, it left independent “hyperlocal” journalists up a creek. “It’s tough to cover a story like that without support. I wasn’t sure exactly when it would hit, whether I should stay up and wait for it or get some sleep,” recalls Debra Galant, former editor of Montclair’s hyperlocal news website, Baristanet, and now the director of the New Jersey News Commons for the Center for Cooperative Media at Montclair State. Launched in July, the Center is partnering with news organizations—large and small—to help the media better cover New Jersey. With major grants from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, its goals are to bolster news coverage and analysis for state residents while giving students at Montclair State’s School of Communication and Media valuable hands-on, professional experience. “In launching our new School of Communication and Media, we are pursuing a clear and compelling vision: to take the lead in media education,” said Dean Daniel Gurskis of the College of the Arts. “The Center uniquely positions us to pursue bold initiatives in the teaching and study of journalism.” With this new initiative, Montclair State joins a handful of other universities around the country looking to shape the future of an industry in transition. “One of our aspirational goals is to help the news industry survive and thrive in New Jersey,” says Matthew Frankel, the University’s executive director for media industry partnerships. “In the process, we are leveraging resources to benefit our students.” President Susan A. Cole agrees. “The Center will offer students invaluable exposure to a rapidly changing industry, A New Approach to News

Center for Cooperative Media offers multimedia platforms, collaborative news and public affairs coverage from its home base on campus

Debra Galant, director of the NJ News Commons, and John Mooney of NJ Spotlight stand in front of a map of hyperlocal news website locations in New Jersey.
FEATURES  ■  A New Approach to News

“One of our aspirational goals is to help the news industry survive and thrive in New Jersey.”

— Matthew Frankel, executive director for media industry partnerships

and give New Jersey residents deeper access to exciting and relevant New Jersey-specific content. From a home base here on campus, it will encourage the interaction between media partners and the creation of new and exciting media initiatives.”

Galant will run the Center’s first initiative, the New Jersey News Commons, and, among other things, will help local news outlets collaborate to cover big stories and important issues such as education, health care, natural disasters and crime trends that affect communities locally and statewide.

“We’ll be able to share stories and collaborate when something big happens,” she says. “During a hurricane, 100 reporters don’t all need to ask the forecaster the same questions. We can share advice and information.”

To prepare the Center’s new home, the University has made major capital investments in HDTV studios and production facilities, new digital radio studios, wireless newsroom spaces, offices and areas designated for collaboration. The Center’s wing in Schmitt Hall is designed to create a kind of National Press Club for New Jersey.

The initial focus of the Center’s work includes developing collaborative statewide news and public affairs programming projects, disseminating content through multimedia platforms and providing an environment on campus that supports ongoing changes in the media. Galant will also oversee a dedicated website to point to the best current stories about New Jersey, including news from and for local communities.

The Commons plans to partner with University faculty and students to provide professional development and training for journalists learning the business side of news, such as advertising sales, online platforms and servers, marketing and managing resources. It will help facilitate workshops and round-table discussions with political, academia and industry leaders to address issues facing the state.

The idea for a news co-op has been percolating for a while among New Jersey journalists, many of whom have been downsized out of jobs as the news industry continues to evolve in an online era.

“I’ve been on a lot of panels to discuss the future of news,” Galant says. “It became clear: Why don’t we create a news co-op
in the state of New Jersey? Everyone's struggling. Maybe we can use our resources more wisely.”

The Center’s initial partners include NJTV, which broadcasts its nightly news show, NJ Today, from its campus headquarters; New Jersey Public Radio, a branch of New York Public Radio; and NJ Spotlight, a foundation-funded news site that focuses on statewide issues of education, energy, the environment and health care. Likening the network to an “ecosystem” of local news sites, Frankel says, “Together we hope to dramatically increase the coverage of New Jersey news and build new foundations of collaboration between the state’s various media entities.”

The Dodge Foundation’s President and CEO Chris Daggett says, “Access to high quality, meaningful news and information is the cornerstone to civic engagement and community building. We believe this is an extraordinary opportunity to help unite journalists and news organizations—large and small—in service to the 8.8 million residents of New Jersey.”

NJ Spotlight reporters and editors work in the Statehouse’s Press Row, in their homes, or at coffee shops with WiFi. The Montclair State campus will be the home of NJ Spotlight’s northern New Jersey bureau, where editors hope to collaborate with other news organizations and will provide opportunities to student interns.

“It’s a wonderful chance to have space, get out of our homes and be around other journalists and to get everyone working together,” says NJ Spotlight co-founder John Mooney. “There’s a lot of collaborative work being done, and it is nice to have a place to do it together and to get our stories on more websites.” He also sees other perks to partnering with the Center: “It will be nice to have some help on marketing or back-office help with things like software development.”

Glocally Newark, run by developer Derek Ware, is a small, independent site targeting Newark’s artistic community. Ware bought Glocally Newark last January to keep it going in order to provide a balance to the constant barrage of crime stories coming out of his hometown.

“We’re looking at the new population in this neighborhood—they’re very artsy, multicultural and don’t have the baggage of the Newark riots affecting how they see the city,” he says. “We are providing a voice that needs to be heard.”

Because he is new to publishing, Ware will turn to the Commons as a place to learn the business. “The Commons helps me avoid tripping along the way,” he says. Ware also sees the Commons as a place to find more exposure for Glocally Newark’s stories and get more material for his site. “My staff can produce three stories a day, but you need more than that to grow,” he says. “We offer urban arts and entertainment coverage. Suburban sites might be interested in our stories, which could, in turn, generate interest in what’s going on in Newark.”

As part of her role as director, Galant has reached out to hyperlocal journalists around the state to determine their needs. Some of what she has learned so far has surprised her. Though she thought everyone would say that increasing revenue was their top concern, one publisher’s biggest need was pooled high school sports coverage. “Sports are a big deal in her town and there are sometimes three or four events going on at once—home and away. If she could share coverage with sites in other towns, she said that would help her more than anything.”

In addition to the work of the Commons, the Center will also serve as an incubator for start-ups, Frankel says. “We hope we can create Baristanet-esque sites throughout the state. If someone needs assistance for a start-up, we’re here to help.”

NJ Spotlight’s Mooney says a Center for Cooperative Media could not happen without the support of the University and the Dodge and Knight foundations, and he hopes it will ultimately help answer the biggest question of all. “The toughest notion is how to make online journalism—not even profitable—but sustainable. No one’s figured that out yet.”

For more information, visit montclair.edu/cooperative-media.

“Everyone’s struggling. Maybe we can use our resources more wisely.”

– Debra Galant, director of the NJ News Commons
Montclair State’s success was not limited to the playing field. Despite all the long hours put into practice and extensive travel to road contests, Red Hawks still excelled in the classroom. Included among the dozens of athletes earning academic honors, three were named Academic All-Americans. Joining the ranks of the prestigious Capital One Academic All-America Teams were: Alex Hill, softball third team; and track stars Heather Gearity and Jon Tancer, second and third teams, respectively, Cross Country and Track and Field squads.

To be eligible for Academic All-America consideration, student athletes must be varsity starters or key reserves and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.30 on a scale of 4.00. Hill, Gearity and Tancer became the sixth, seventh and eighth student athletes in school history to earn Academic All-America honors.

The trio’s achievements topped a season in which many Red Hawks received academic honors—with a total of 63 student athletes being named to the NJAC All-Academic Team and 29 being inducted into the National College Athlete Honor Society in 2012.

For year-round sports coverage visit montclairathletics.com
With 700 Wins Each, Schoenig and Kubicka Become Winningest Coaches

Longtime Montclair baseball and softball coaches Norm Schoenig and Anita Kubicka both joined the ranks of the winningest coaches in Division III history in the spring as each collected their 700th career victories.

Schoenig, who completed his 25th season in 2012, reached the milestone on April 17 as the Red Hawks knocked off Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute 15-2 at Yogi Berra Stadium. He became the 21st coach in NCAA Division III baseball history to reach the 700-win mark. Schoenig took over the baseball program in 1988 and has led Montclair State to nearly 43 percent of its victories in the sport’s 80-year history, including five conference titles. His teams have made it to 16 NCAA Tournaments, seven regional championships, and hold the 1993 and 2000 Division III national titles.

Two weeks after Schoenig’s win, Kubicka coached her 700th victory, when her softball team blanked Ramapo College 5-0 in the opening round of the NJAC Tournament. She became the eighth coach in Division III softball history to amass that many victories. Kubicka came to Montclair State in 1991, and in her 22 seasons at the helm, she has guided the Red Hawks to two NJAC championships, three NCAA Regional appearances, and three Top 3 finishes at the NCAA Division III Softball Championship, including this year when Montclair State placed third. Between them, the coaches have won a total of 1,416 games in their careers with each coincidentally winning the exact number of games—708 each.

1987 BASEBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM REUNION

The Department of Athletics and the baseball program celebrated the 25th Anniversary of its 1987 NCAA Division III National Championship Team at a home game in April. Eighteen members from that squad made their way back to Montclair State, including head coach Kevin Cooney. Team members honored in a private ceremony inside the Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center before the game included: Rich Preziotti, Bill Coyle, Bob Levy, Pete Diaz, Fran Maggio, Ray Castellano, John McClain, Jim Fasano, Dave Kern, Kevin Cavallo, Wayne Masters, Sal Ferragine, Brian Devins, Brian Cheswick, Mike Wenrich, Jeff Vanderof and Leroy Horn.

Cooney, the 1987 National Coach of the Year, threw out the ceremonial first pitch of the Red Hawks doubleheader with The College of New Jersey, and the group was honored between games as the players held up their national championship trophy. In 1987, the then Indians brought home from Ohio the first of three NCAA national championships for Montclair State as Horn blasted the “Shot Heard Round Montclair” with his two-run homer in the bottom of the 10th inning. The home run capped one of the greatest seasons not only in program history, but also in the history of athletics at the University.

Led by Cooney, a former player and Hall of Famer, the team punctuated a 34-14-1 season with a 13-12 victory over Wisconsin-Oshkosh in the championship game after sweeping all four games in the championship tournament. During the reunion, the former players may have had a sense of deja vu as the current Red Hawks downed the Lions in the first game 11-10 on what else? A walk-off home run in the bottom of the 10th inning.
Lacrosse Teams Sweep Skyline Conference Titles, Earn NCAA Berths

The men and women’s lacrosse teams dominated the Skyline Conference, sweeping the league’s championship for the third consecutive season. The men’s team, under first-year head coach Chris Kivlen, captured its fourth straight title, downing Kean University 17-10 in the championship game.

Senior All-American Tyler Meth, who became the all-time leading goal scorer in program history, was named the tournament’s Most Valuable Player as the Red Hawks advanced to the NCAA Tournament. Meth also was named the Skyline Conference Player of the Year with Kivlen earning the league’s Coach of the Year honors.

Below: Lacrosse teams dominated the Skyline Conference.

Meanwhile the Montclair State women’s team collected a 14-6 record and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division III Women’s Lacrosse Championship. The Red Hawks, under Skyline Coach of the Year Nicol Parcelluzzi, defeated Farmingdale State, 14-12 in the conference championship game to claim an automatic berth to the NCAAs. The women then made the most of their appearance in the national tournament edging York (Pennsylvania) College, 14-13 in the first round—just the second NCAA Tournament victory in program history.

Below: Lacrosse teams dominated the Skyline Conference.

Montclair State softball recorded one of the finest seasons in program history, setting a school record for victories and finishing third at the NCAA Division III Softball Championship in Salem, Virginia. It was the third Top 3 finish ever for the team, which had not finished in the top three in the national tournament since 1997, when it was runner-up. Before that, the team placed third in 1992.

Montclair State finished the year at 44-9, earning the most wins by any athletic team in a season, surpassing the 42 mark set by the 2000 national championship baseball squad.

Softball Places Third at NCAA Division III Championship

Montclair State softball won the New Jersey Athletic Conference regular-season championship and were the No. 1 seed in the NCAA Regional Tournament where the team won four straight games to earn its way to the national tournament, including a 1-0 victory over Rowan University in the championship game. Dominating the competition, sophomore pitcher Alex Hill was named First Team All-America.

The Red Hawks won the New Jersey Athletic Conference regular-season championship and were the No. 1 seed in the NCAA Regional Tournament where the team won four straight games to earn its way to the national tournament, including a 1-0 victory over Rowan University in the championship game. Dominating the competition, sophomore pitcher Alex Hill was named First Team All-America.

The NJAC Player and Pitcher of the Year recorded a 32-6 record with a 0.98 ERA and 338 strikeouts. She led the nation with 20 shutouts and set new single-season records for victories and strikeouts.

University Hosts the NCAA Women’s Lacrosse Championship

Montclair State hosted the NCAA Division III Women’s Lacrosse Championship in May. It was the second time that the University served as the host venue for an NCAA Championship—the first being in 2009, when the Division III Softball Championship played out at Montclair State University Softball Stadium.

The 2012 championship marked the seventh time that the Division III national semifinals and championship game took place in New Jersey.

In 2013, Montclair State will again host the NCAA Women’s Lacrosse Championship, when both the Division II and Division III tournaments come to Sprague Field May 18-19.

The NCAA Lacrosse Championship will come to Montclair State again in 2013.
had Faulcon has dreamed of playing professional football ever since the day he first strapped on shoulder pads in fourth grade for the peewee Cranford Cougars.

It was a dream that carried the powerful defensive back through high school, his four years as a Red Hawk and all the way to the day in April when he signed as an undrafted free agent with the Atlanta Falcons and woke up at training camp. “It was surreal. I was watching these guys on TV last year and they were on my fantasy team, and then, all of a sudden, I’m playing with them,” says Faulcon, recalling the experience of training with Atlanta before being waived in July.

Despite his talent, Faulcon’s path to playing professionally is not obvious or certain, and the senior star safety figured his football career was over at the end of the 2011 season when the Red Hawks lost to Kean in the New Jersey Athletic Conference Championship game. “I hadn’t heard from the NFL, but my coaches came to me and told me they thought I should still try to play professional football,” he says. “I was skeptical at first, but it was still my dream, so I talked with an agent and they got me a lot of exposure.”

Invited to the Players All-Star Classic in Little Rock, Arkansas, he got a chance to play against Division I players in front of NFL scouts. “Teams wanted to see that I could play against Division I talent and I proved that I could,” he says of the game where he had seven tackles and an interception. Faulcon caught the NFL’s attention, and his name made Falcons fans happy too, as evidenced on a website for Falcons fans. It was huge honor to sign with the Falcons, he says, even if he only made it midway through the summer. He maintains a positive attitude about getting waived, focusing on the experience instead. “They had a couple of injuries and had to make sure they kept players in those positions,” he says. “I was glad that the coaches said they liked what I was doing.” Faulcon took part in the Falcons’ mini-camp in May and the Falcons’ organized team activities in June, before heading to Atlanta’s training camp in July.

Playing however briefly with the Falcons topped off a standout year for Faulcon, named the Defensive Player of the Year for the NJAC and D3Football.com for the East Region and chosen to the D3Football.com All-America Team.

In 2011, Faulcon registered 72 tackles and three interceptions for the Red Hawks, helping Montclair State to an 8-2 overall season. He also helped Montclair State to back-to-back NJAC championships and NCAA Division III playoff appearances in 2009 and 2010.

Faulcon is keeping his options open, hoping another NFL team will need an additional safety due to roster changes or injuries, and he’s also talking with the Canadian Football League and looking to play in Calgary. Football is football, he says, and it’s what he wants to do. In either case, he says he will return to Montclair State in order to do his fieldwork for a teaching degree in physical education. “I will try to go back and finish in the spring and summer,” he says.

— Laura Griffin
“A split second. It’s often the difference between winning or losing, between breaking a record or just being part of the pack.

For Heather Gearity, one last push at the end of the 400-meter hurdles in May meant winning the NCAA National Championship by 9/100ths of a second in a race she finished in just over a minute.

“It happened so quickly,” recalls Gearity, a junior. “I fell to third coming off the last hurdle, but inside, I knew I still had a chance to win. I was either coming in first, second, or third, so I just started moving my arms and legs as fast as I could.”

At the end, it was so close that she wasn’t sure if she won with her time of 1:00.27 until she saw her name on the board and heard it announced.

“I took a deep breath and looked up and there it was,” she recalls.

Gearity has been on both sides of close races before.

“Last year, she finished runner up in the 400-meter hurdles in the same championship race by little more than a second’s difference.

This year’s NCAA championship capped off a stellar outdoor campaign for the now two-time All-American, who was also named the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association’s Atlantic Region Track Athlete of the Year and NJAC Outstanding Athlete of the Year.

She also had a standout year in academics, earning Academic All-America honors.

The biology major returns to Montclair State to continue her studies and to run track for two more seasons.

“I’m excited that I won but also a little nervous because now I have to go harder and try to get it again,” she says.

— Laura Griffin
Being a graduate has its Perks!

The Montclair State University Alumni Card

Log on to MONTCLAIRconnect, the online community exclusively for Montclair State alumni, to activate your card and start taking advantage of exclusive alumni benefits, discounts and offers today!

Log on to montclair.edu/montclairconnect to get started!

For more information on benefits and services, visit montclair.edu/alumni.
When the members of the Class of 1962 and earlier classes returned to campus for the annual 50th and 50-plus reunion celebration in May, they brought decades of memories with them.

In 1962, average annual income was $5,550 and a brand-new house cost $12,000. The year the class of 1962 graduated, the US was involved in the Cuban Missile Crisis, John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth and Marilyn Monroe died. And in the ensuing years, they experienced decades of change: the Civil Rights Movement; the Feminist Movement; numerous wars from Vietnam to Iraq; the global economic collapse; and the first African American president.

To commemorate their milestone reunion, Montclair State alumni traveled from as far as California, Arizona and Texas. The Class of 1962 participated in the University’s 2012 Commencement exercises where 4,262 degrees were conferred. Those not participating in Commencement attended a gathering on campus in the President’s Dining Room overlooking the New York City skyline.

Later in the day, the graduates of all classes attended a luncheon in their honor in the University Hall Conference Center. The festivities gave alumni the opportunity to visit with former classmates, renew old friendships, reminisce and tour the campus to experience the exciting changes that have taken place at Montclair State since their days as students.

Dorothy Bognar ’62 felt that the opportunity to participate in the Commencement exercises was the highlight of her experience: “The Class of 1962 was fortunate for the opportunity to participate in this expertly organized event. The graduation ceremony with the recognition and admiring attention bestowed upon us, as well as the ability to reconnect and share camaraderie with former classmates was truly a treasured, memorable experience for me.”

Ralph Rizzolo ’62 was thrilled to attend, noting, “Everything was professionally done. My wife and I felt most comfortable. The staff was outstanding. Congrats on a job well done. We look forward to attending again as a member of the 50-plus reunion group.”

Alumni Relations expressed gratitude to the Reunion Committee members for all their hard work and dedication in making this a memorable event: Joseph Attanasio ’62, Andy Durborow ’62, Ken Tekel ’62, Ester Godoy Wierhelig ’62 and Joan B. Whitehead ’62.

If you have not had the chance to do so already, there is still time to join your fellow classmates who, together, have contributed more than $6,000 to the Class of 1962’s gift in support of the Second Century Scholarship Fund. To contribute, contact Deb Corasio at 973-655-4207.

Calling all members of the Class of 1963!
Planning is already underway for the Class of 1963 50th Reunion Celebration! Mark your calendar to join your classmates on May 23 and 24, 2013. Visit montclair.edu/1963Reunion for a tentative schedule of events. Check back often for updates. We will keep you posted as specific information becomes available. If you would like to join the planning committee and help reach out to your classmates, contact Deb Corasio at 973-655-4207.

Calling all members of 50-plus Classes!
Celebrate the anniversary of your graduation from Montclair State by returning to campus. The 50-plus Reunion Celebration will take place on May 24, 2013. All alumni who graduated prior to 1963 are welcome to attend. In addition, we will celebrate the following milestone years: Class of 1958, 55th reunion; Class of 1953, 60th reunion; Class of 1948, 65th reunion and the Class of 1943, 70th reunion. Visit montclair.edu/50+Reunion for more information on the celebration.
President Hosts Town Hall Meeting with Alumni in Washington, DC

President Susan A. Cole and Washington, DC-area alumni gathered in the capital in June for a town hall meeting at the National Press Club. Cole addressed the state of the University, along with its recent accomplishments and future plans. The town hall format provided alumni with the opportunity for an open dialogue with the president.

Vice President for University Advancement Jack Shannon welcomed alumni to the event, telling the crowd he hoped the town hall meeting will become an annual event and asked attendees to spread the word to fellow alumni. Executive Director of Alumni Relations Jeanne Marano said that although they may not get to campus often, out-of-state alumni can stay connected by joining MONTCLAIRconnect—an online community where they can learn about events, search the directory for classmates, create a Montclair State alumni email and more.

Cole noted that alumni play a crucial role in Montclair State’s ability to achieve its vision for the future and serve as vital advocates for the University, helping to build its reputation, promote centers of excellence and recruit new students. In addition, alumni serve as key contacts for current students and fellow alumni in the job search process and do so much to assist, including speaking on panels, providing informational interviews, posting internships and job openings and offering mentor opportunities.

As traditional state funding allocations no longer adequately support the growth and development of public universities, she said, continued financial support from alumni is critical to the University and the thousands of students it will serve in the years to come.

Recent alumnus Harsh Bhatt ’11, who graduated with a BS in biology, thanked President Cole and Montclair State for the wonderful opportunities and positive experiences he had as a student. “Montclair State University has given me an excellent opportunity to fulfill my dream of completing 62 credits in one year to achieve my bachelor’s degree in biology,” he said.

Alumni enjoyed the opportunity to hear about the University and meet the president, as well as the chance to network with fellow Red Hawks in the area. Plans are underway to make this an annual event to build a strong network among Washington, DC-area alumni.

Valerie Maholmes ’80, ’84 MA was especially delighted that President Cole and other University administrators traveled to the area and hopes to help coordinate future regional events: “It was a wonderful event and very gratifying to hear Dr. Cole talk about all of the advances the University has made since I graduated, as well as the vision for the future. We look forward to having more of these events in our area in particular to address important advocacy issues. The town hall meeting inspired us to have more alumni meet-ups in the area so that we can continue to support the goals and mission of Montclair State University.”

Jose Woss ’09 and Keith Roachford ’87 at the town hall meeting
Alumni College
Connected Through Learning

Alumni College programs offer the opportunity to engage in the academic life of the University through lifelong learning seminars featuring Montclair State’s dynamic faculty and business and industry leaders. These panels are designed to expand the alumni experience and allow alumni to join a discussion on an emerging industry trend or hot topic.

Here’s a look at last spring’s sessions:

Building a Sustainable America
This session examined the concept of sustainability and what it means in terms of policy, business and everyday life. What does a sustainable society look like? The session featured Eric Svenson, vice president of policy and environmental health and safety at PSEG, Michael Weinstein, director of Montclair State’s PSEG Institute for Sustainability Studies and Alan Hecht, director of sustainable development at the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

More than “going green,” sustainability seeks to address the long-term threat posed by the unanticipated effects of human actions. This session addressed how modern civilization is potentially placing irreversible stresses on the relationship between the environment and human progress, including the areas of population, habitation, consumption and environmental change.

Hecht touched on the history of the sustainability movement, highlighting initiatives in the United States and throughout the world. He also talked about the vital role of business in addressing the economics of sustainability. In order to achieve sustainability, it must be made economically beneficial to businesses and society, he said.

Leveraging New Media for Business Success
This panel, moderated by Professor Nicole Bryan, delved into using new media channels, web design and web tracking tools (e.g. “cookies”) to enhance customer experience for optimal business success. The discussion included search engine optimization (SEO), social media, mobile technology, Web 2.0, mashups, apps and the online customer experience.

The panel featured Professor Ross Malaga of the Department of Information and Operations Management; Simon Leung, president and CEO of Gemini Systems; Michael Bisignani, senior vice president and co-chief technology officer of Gemini Systems; and John Maalouf ’10, director of social media at SituatioNormal.

The Role of ETFs in the Financial Marketplace and Investment Portfolios
Comprised of School of Business faculty and financial industry representatives, this panel addressed the role of ETFs (exchange traded funds) in the current and future marketplace. How have ETFs changed the financial industry? What are the advantages and risks of ETFs? The panel featured James T. Cirenza, managing director at DNB Markets, as moderator, and speakers;

Professor A. Seddik Meziani, chair of the Department of Economics and Finance; Lydia Eftimoski, vice president and senior financial adviser at LGM Wealth Management Group - Merrill Lynch Wealth Management; and Christos Mihopoulos, principal of State Street Global Advisors and regional sales consultant.

The role of these funds has increased dramatically in global markets since the first US-listed ETF was introduced nearly 20 years ago. Last year, that ETF, commonly known as “SPY,” became the first US-listed ETF to garner more than $100 billion in assets. The industry is now a major component of investment strategies and includes nearly 1,400 funds that increasingly poach market share from mutual funds. ETFs are available in virtually all segments of the market and track everything from bonds, real estate investment trusts and the utility sector to the S&P 500.

Alumni College attendees responded positively, noting that topics were timely, interesting and insightful, and the format was interactive and engaging. Visit the alumni website at montclair.edu/alumni for information on additional sessions.
Workshops
Expanding Alumni Career Resources

In response to today’s challenging job market, the Office of Alumni Relations, along with the Center for Career Services and Cooperative Education, offers expanded career resources to alumni, providing the tools necessary to move forward in a job search or career transition.

“Over the past academic year, we were able to provide monthly seminars and workshops for our graduates to help them navigate an increasingly challenging job market,” said Jeanne Marano, executive director of alumni relations. “This year, we are adding webinars that will provide the fundamentals of the search, supplemented by seminars and workshops designed to provide hands-on practice and feedback. We’ll also record the sessions for those who are unable to come to campus.”

In addition to workshops and seminars, alumni enjoy lifetime access to career resources, including counseling, occupational research and employment services provided through the Center for Career Services and Cooperative Education. “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,” says Director Adam Mayer.

The Center holds career fairs each semester as well as workshops and one-on-one sessions. For more information, contact Mayer at 973-655-5194 or mayerad@mail.montclair.edu.

Choosing the right career ranks among the most important decisions in life. Finding work that allows you to use your skills and express your passions, interests and values is key to a fulfilling career. And, of course, it’s easier to enjoy your work if you like what you do. So tap into these free webinars and workshops for help on your career journey.

To view past sessions, visit MONTCLAIRconnect.com.

Upcoming programs include:
• October 10, 2012: Workshop: I Have My Assessment Results, Now What?
• November 7, 2012: Webinar: Resume and “Pitch” Intensive, Craft Messages that Get Results
• November 14, 2012: Workshop: Optimal Resume Working Session
• December 12, 2012: Workshop: Practice Your Two-Minute Pitch
• January 9, 2013: Webinar: Getting Interviews: Keys to the Hidden Job Market
• January 16, 2013: Workshop: Writing Powerful Emails & Cover Letters for Your Job Search
• February 6, 2013: Workshop: LinkedIn 101
• February 13, 2013: Webinar: LinkedIn Intensive: Jump-Start Your Career
• March 6, 2013: Webinar: Turn Job Interviews Into Offers
• March 13, 2012: Workshop: Want that Job Offer? Tell Stories!
• April 3, 2013: Webinar: Effective Salary Negotiation
• April 10, 2013: Workshop: Financial Management
• May 1, 2013: Webinar: The First 90 Days, and the Six Keys to On-the-Job Success
• May 8, 2013: Workshop: Delivering Effective Presentations at Work
• June 12, 2013: Workshop: Work Life Balance: Juggling Priorities
• July 10, 2013: Workshop: Enhancing Your Computer Skills: Microsoft Office 2010

Robert Hellman, a certified Five O’Clock Club vice president and career coach, and a New York University professor, leads many of the sessions. The Five O’Clock Club is a career-counseling network that also helps employers with outplacement of laid-off employees and has certified career counselors nationwide.

For full program descriptions, and to register, visit montclair.edu/alumnicareer. For questions or comments, contact Alumni Relations at 973-655-4141 or alumni@mail.montclair.edu.
Within eight years of graduating, David Cirino ‘04 went from business student to singer, songwriter, rapper, music producer and engineer. While his latest accomplishments—releasing a mixed tape titled Dragon Theory and getting one of his songs played on NBC’s sitcom Up All Night—may seem a far cry from his information systems degree, Cirino credits his success to his time at Montclair State. “I didn’t realize how it shaped me until I was done. For instance, knowing so much about computers helped me build my studio,” he says.

Early in life, Cirino found his passion in music, but while in college his parents wanted him to choose something more practical. “I wanted to major in music, but my parents said ‘no.’ Business was a logical choice… I’m happy they had me do it.” In terms of being an entrepreneur, “I feel like I am in the beginning stages. I stumbled into it.”

While not directly involved with music programs on campus, Cirino spent his time after class writing songs on a keyboard in his room. “Montclair is where I found myself, where my creativity came out as an artist,” he says, adding that coming from a small town, he felt shy when he arrived. “I got a lot of confidence there.”

Cirino fondly recalls faculty members who inspired him during his time at Montclair State. His former marketing professor, Ralph DiPietro, opened his mind. “He was very funny and always spoke his mind. I will never forget that,” says Cirino, who still comes back to campus for events. Richard Peterson, his former advisor, mentored him and helped show him the way while at the University.

Cirino recently signed a contract with Muzak, Inc., a company that will get his songs distributed as background music in retail chains and is excited at the prospect. He has also partnered with a licensing company, Aperture Music, is shopping around new singles for commercial placement and is working to put together a DVD series similar to his YouTube tutorials on songwriting, production and audio engineering.

Cirino says he also owes his success to his faith, hard work and a little risk-taking. “In life, a lot of people get stuck in the system,” he says. “When you’re young, you have time to take the risks. If you have a dream, you have to pursue it 100 percent. Give it time. And when I say ‘time,’ I mean at least one year.”

– Stacy Albanese
’30s

Mae Ballinger ’34 celebrated her 100th birthday on May 31, 2012 with her family, and Montclair State alumni, including Francis Gentle ’66, Robert Novelle ’71 and Rebecca Gentle Siebelts ’11. Mae still lives in her historic childhood home in Medford, New Jersey.

’40s

Alan Rosenberg ’49 completed 50 years as pastor of the Christian & Missionary Alliance Church, 40 years of which were at the Church in San Bernandino, California.

’50s

Helen McKenna ’50 was a finalist in the short stories category of the San Diego Book Awards, won third prize in the non-fiction category of the John Keats Literary Competition and took first prize in the creative non-fiction category of the Mendocino Coast Writers Conference.

Gloria Curry ’51 and husband John Carol Curry, a Tuskegee Airman, celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary. She also retired from the Prince Georges County Maryland public schools where she received many outstanding teacher awards.

Dorothea Hooper ’54, ’58 MA currently teaches at Southern New Hampshire University and serves as a city councilor in Dover, New Hampshire, and a state representative of Stafford District 5. She was on the Dover School Board for eight years.

Carolann Barling Jennings ’59 and Harold Jennings ’56 proudly report that their daughter Carin Jennings Gabarra was part of the gold medal-winning 1996 Olympic women’s soccer team and is now a women’s soccer coach at the US Naval Academy.

’60s

Eve Frost ’60 recently retired after a career in education. She taught special education for six years, was a director of a preschool for low-income children for 20 years and, for the last 15 years of her career, was an academic advisor at a state college.

Madeleine Greene ’60 retired from the University of Maryland Extension, but continues to work as a military family life consultant in personal finance.

Gay Pitman Zieger ’60 and Robert Zieger ’60 are happy to welcome their first grandchild, Persephone.

Carol Flynn ’61 and her husband recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated with their five daughters, five sons-in-law and fifteen of their sixteen grandchildren.

Al Hector ’61 and Janet Hector ’62 recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and the arrival of their 12th grandchild.

Susan Slinger ’61, a retired physical, health and sexual education teacher, recently wrote a book based on her experiences teaching.
Bob Dey ’62 welcomed his first grandchild, Abby Grace Dey, on July 27, 2011.

Fred Misurella ’62 published his novel, Only Sons, in August. The novel follows two immigrant Italian-American families in northeastern Pennsylvania from the 1960s to the present. Misurella’s book of stories, Lies to Live By (2005), was internationally reviewed.

Hilda Weisburg ’62 recently celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary. Her 15th book for school librarians, and third for American Library Association Editions, will be published this fall. Her first young adult fantasy novel will be published in the spring of 2013.

Nancie West ’62 retired after 12 years from teaching and coaching in the Expanding Quality for Infants and Toddlers Project, a Colorado Department of Education initiative.

Joseph Snow ’63 has published The Poetry of Alfonso X: An Annotated Bibliography.

Kenneth Villani ’63, ’72 MA retired after almost 40 years as a teacher and vice principal at Bridgewater-Raritan High School. He now works at Kean University, mentoring students and first-year teachers.

Joseph Filoramo ’64, ’67 MA retired after 25 years at Northern Valley Regional High School, where he was the English supervisor. He also worked for two years as an adjunct professor at Montclair State and worked as a coach. He worked at Koinonia Academy, serving as an Academic Dean for eight years before retiring. His daughter, Anna, is enrolled at Montclair State this fall.

Lillian Cascamo ’64 and fellow Delta Sigma Chi Sorority officers Carol Conley ’64, Jane Alcoff ’64 and Kathleen Titus ’64 recently gathered for a reunion in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Daniel Derrico ’64, ’67 MA is the editor and co-author of Increasing the Effectiveness of the Community College Financial Model—a Global Perspective for the Global Economy, a book about community college finance, leadership and administration.

Marilyn Chinnici ’65 and Toby Marrone ’66 recently reconnected and now visit each other while vacationing on Hilton Head Island.

Robert Peirano ’65, ’69 MA recently received his Doctor of Letters degree from Drew University. He works as the director of operations for the North Bergen Renaissance Corporation.

Don Schlenger ’65 and Jackie Schlenger ’65 are returning to Ethiopia for the first time since they were Peace Corps volunteers in 1968. Traveling with them are fellow Montclair State alumni Mary Bowman ’82 and Jacqueline Marrone ’80.

Bob Winter ’65, a superintendent for 35 years, now spends his time riding horses.

Laurel Bernstein ’66 received the 2012 Beacon of Light Award from the New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners (NJAWBO) on behalf of the Essex Chapter. The award recognized Bernstein for inspiring and motivating others to support NJAWBO.

Don Doolittle ’66, ’72 MA and Vivian Fontana Doolittle ’67 celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary with a trip to Sicily and Malta. As students, they met in the Freeman Hall cafeteria. Both are retired health and physical education teachers living in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

Jacqueline Seewald ’66 wrote Death Legacy. The novel, an espionage thriller, was recently published in hardcover by Five Star/Gale. She also writes a regular health column for Tea Magazine.

Thomas Hudak ’67, ’73 MA and Carlyn Kahrs Hudak ’67 celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary on August 9, 2012.

Charles Roche ’67 was awarded the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award from the New Jersey Track and Field Officials Association. He has served as a starter, referee and meet director, and also serves as a starter at all levels of state championship meets.

Jay Teran ’67 and his partner of 37 years, John Williams, married in Central Park, New York City in July of 2011. Both have had careers in the theater. They live in New York City and Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

James Harris ’68, ’70 MA won his bid for a fourth two-year term as president of the New Jersey State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He recently retired from his position as associate dean of students at Montclair State.

Michael Orfe ’68 lives in Hunterdon County. After 40 years as a high school teacher, department supervisor and coach, he now works at Centenary College as an adjunct and a supervisor of student teaching. He is also on the faculty at Raritan Valley Community College.

Robert Brewer ’70 submitted photographs of John Hall Wheelock and Richard Eberhart, renowned editors and poets, to the University of South Carolina and Dartmouth College for their permanent collections.

Glen Guarino ’70 is the designer of “Arabesque,” a piece of furniture featured on the cover of Mind & Hand: Contemporary Studio Furniture.


Dorinne Davis ’71, ’73 MA published a book, The Cycle of Sound: A Missing Energetic Link that introduces a new subtle energy system and a technique that supports self-healing when integrating the new system.

Anita Kuch Blomberg ’69 received the National Federation of High Schools’ Field Hockey Official of the Year for 2011 in the State of New Jersey Award. She has officiated more than 25 State Championship games and serves on the executive board of the NJSIAA Northeast (2) Field Hockey Chapter.

Enie Sehringer ’72 MA retired after 50 years as a math teacher. His career included 33 years at Columbia High School in Maplewood, New Jersey, and 10 years at Timothy Christian School in Piscataway, New Jersey.

Marilyn Shapiro ’72, ’78 MA, a former adjunct professor, and her husband recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary and will soon attend their daughter’s wedding.

Carol Dawes ’73 wrote California Sunset, a contemporary romance novel published in August 2012. She is one of several Montana romance writers published by F+W Media, creators of Writer’s Digest.

Abbey Feierstein ’73 retired after 30 years in human resource management with the State of Delaware. She volunteers at a farmers’ market, enjoys time with her grandson, travels, creates and sells original jewelry and lives at the Delaware beach.

Alice Obelleiro ’73 retired from the State of New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services after serving 32 years in the office that administers the Global Options Medicaid Wavier program for elderly and disabled residents.

Suzanne Reynolds ’73 was named assistant dean of the School of Education at St. Thomas Aquinas College in Sparkill, New York.
Kathy King '74 retired from the Communications Workers of America to pursue her love of music. She studies voice and performs at local events, and at Trumpets Jazz Club, Cecil’s and the Oskar Schindler Performing Arts Center.

John Chiego '75, associate director of the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music at the University of Memphis, recently performed at Carnegie Hall with the Nashville Symphony Orchestra. A long-time principal bassist of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, he is currently completing the third edition of his bestselling textbook, The Musical Experience. John and his wife, Sara, also a bassist with the Memphis Symphony, have three boys, Chris, Andrew and Peter.

Doug Graham '75 created the “80/10/10 Diet” and wrote Nutrition and Athletic Performance. Athletes worldwide have adopted his nutritional program.

Joan Millar '75 MA, '01 MA visited her daughter, Stephanie Milhar, in the South Island, Westland/Tai Poutini National Park in New Zealand in May 2012.

Leon Daidone '76, named Ohio’s Outstanding Assistant Prosecutor of the Year by the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association, is currently the criminal division chief.

Kathi Fiorino '76 owns All the Best Weddings & Celebrations, an award-winning social and corporate event planning company. She and her husband, Will, married in 1977, have two children and twin grandsons.

Edward Gero '76 was recently profiled in the 2012 issue of American Theatre magazine. He plans to reopen the production of RED by John Logan at Arena Stage having completed the first American run at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago, where it was directed by Tony Award-winner Robert Falls.

Bruce Whipple '76 and Wendy Whipple '77 announce that their daughter, Molly, will graduate from their alma mater in 2015. Molly spent her first year living on campus in the room next to the one where her mother lived as a freshman. Bruce is a technology teacher at the Andover Regional Schools, and Wendy is a two-time Teacher of the Year recipient and librarian at Newton High School.

Joanne Barry '77, named Outstanding Association Executive by the New York Society of Association Executives, is the executive director of the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants (NYSSCPA).
Anthony Carlino ‘77, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Montclair State University Foundation, was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the New Jersey State Bar Association.

Denis Collins ‘77 recently published his sixth book, Business Ethics: How to Design and Manage Ethical Organizations, a textbook for undergraduate and MBA students. Having recently survived a second bout of Hodgkin’s Lymphoma, he is back in remission.

Charlotte Mandel ‘77 MA won the 2012 New Jersey Poets Prize. The presentation was made in April at the County College of Morris, with featured reading and publication in the Journal of New Jersey Poets.

Rafael Rodriguez ‘77 MA was recently appointed to the board of a foundation that helps bridge the gap between ideologies in Cuba and the United States.

Andrew Fede ‘78 recently published his book, Roadblocks to Freedom, Slavery and Manumission in the United States South, which considers the law of freedom suits and manumission from the point of view of legal procedure, evidence rules, damage awards and trial practice. Fede is an adjunct professor at Montclair State.

Charles Armstrong ‘79 MA retired from the United States Navy at the rank of Captain. He served in a wide variety of Navy and Joint Intelligence assignments. Now with D2 Capital Management, a registered investment advisory firm, he was recently named the 2012 Small Business Administration Veteran Champion of the Year for Florida.

‘80s

Bruce Conforth ‘80, recently named by The Princeton Review as one of America’s 300 Best Professors, won the University of Michigan’s highest teaching honor, the annual Golden Apple Award. He was also chosen by MTV to film the pilot for a new series called America’s Best Lectures.

Robert Morrissey ‘80, who has more than 30 years of human resources and management experience, was appointed senior vice president and chief human resources officer of the Campbell Soup Company.

Mariechen McNish ‘81 is proud to announce that her daughter is now attending Montclair State University.

Michael Price ‘81 appeared on Autism Live with wife Monica Holloway, to give an interview regarding the couple’s service to families affected by autism, inspired by their son. Price is a writer and co-executive producer for The Simpsons.

Richard Cawley ‘82 was named vice president of Dewberry, a privately held professional services firm. Cawley brings more than 30 years of experience in the engineering and consulting profession to the position.

Debreen Conklin ‘82 and husband Tony Oliva celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary and are proud new grandparents of Hannah Eleanor Alexander. Debreen is currently employed as a middle school family and consumer science teacher and is also a professional organizer, owning her own company, “d.o. organize.”

Barbara Pinelli ‘82 serves as the co-coordinator for the Gifted and Talented Program in South Plainfield Middle School. This includes lesson plans, activities and coaching her team for their first-time entry into the Odyssey of the Mind contest.

Patricia Helwig ‘83 accepted a new position as a K-5 music teacher at the Van Derveer School in Somerville, New Jersey.

Donna "Coney Island" Hochhauser ‘83 recently starred in a television commercial for RC Cola in Tel Aviv, Israel. The spot will air throughout the fall.

Janine Iannarelli ‘83, top row, center

Hannah Eleanor Alexander, granddaughter of Debreen Conklin ‘82

Janine Iannarelli ‘83 is a board member and active supporter of Mercury, and attended their 2012 Gala. Her company, Par Avion, Ltd., recently celebrated its 15th anniversary.
Steve Naples '83 and Heidi Naples '82 are the proud grandparents of Hanalyn. Their youngest daughter, Juliana, will attend Montclair State University in the fall.

Michael DeTroia '84 and Lois DeTroia '84 recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

Kevin Ketcho '84, a financial literacy teacher at Passaic Valley High School, is proud to announce the success of his students in the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association’s (SIFMA) Stock Market Game. This is the third year that Passaic Valley’s students have proved victorious in this strategy-oriented “game.”

René Rovtar '84 MA serves as the superintendent of the Long Hill Township School District in New Jersey. She recently ran her 9th Boston Marathon and raised funds for the Dana Farber Cancer Research Center.

Valerie Smith ’85 retired from AT&T as human resources manager and is now the staffing manager at the Princeton, New Jersey, branch of Snelling Staffing Services.

Paula Goldberg ’86 released her most recent screenplay, The Perfect Family, at the Montclair Film Festival in May.

Joe Caruso ’87 is working on his third play and wrote an article for Classic Images magazine about the origins of Blackhawk Films. His most recent show was a radio adaptation of Wonderful Life.


Lisa Stoothoff ’87 is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Preparatory Education at Donnelly College in Kansas City, Kansas. She lives in Overland Park, Kansas, with her husband, Anthony, and their four children.

Tracee Davis ’88 was named chair of the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section of the New York State Bar Association.

Diane Sugrue ’88 was presented with the Platinum Award for Private Sector Law Firm from the New Jersey Women Lawyers Association (NJWLA).

Stephen Swinton ’88 is the creative director of the Swinton Studio. The studio, located in Washington, New Jersey, celebrates its 25th anniversary this year.

Stephen Swinton ’88 with his Montclair State second generation undergraduate, Nakia Swinton ’16.

Hanalyn, granddaughter of Steve Naples ’83 and Heidi Naples ’82

Steve Naples ’83 and Heidi Naples ’82

Michael DeTroia ’84 and Lois DeTroia ’84

Kevin Ketcho ’84

René Rovtar ’84 MA

Valerie Smith ’85

Paula Goldberg ’86

Joe Caruso ’87

Karen DelleCava ’87

Lisa Stoothoff ’87

Tracee Davis ’88

Diane Sugrue ’88

Stephen Swinton ’88

‘90s

Amy Marino ’92 recently received a Service Recognition Award for more than 10 years at Bloomberg Television. Amy started her career at Bloomberg in 2000, and has been a video editor for more than 15 years, during which she has edited and produced feature news stories, promos, specials, documentaries and reality programming. In 2008, she received a Business Emmy for editing a special investigative report on 401(k)s.

Carmela Novi ’92 joined the Weinberger Law Group, LLC, in Parsippany, New Jersey.

Marc DeDonato ’93 recently switched careers, leaving Merck after 20 years in the laboratory to teach in Newark, where there is a need for science teachers.
Catherine Greenfeder ’93 MA is a teacher at the Hillside Avenue School. She completed 15 years as a language arts teacher and published three novels, including *Sacred Fires*.


John Clidy ’95 recently opened his new real estate office and partnered with Mega Office in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. The company now has more than 200 realtors.

Jason Alders ’96 married Chelsea Rabbe on May 12, 2012. Alders was a cartoonist for *The Montclarion* for five years.  

Michael Piperno ’96 Cert., the president and creative director of Imbue Creative, was recently honored at the 2012 Communicator Awards.

Gayle Gruenberg ’97 earned her Certified Professional Organizer in Chronic Disorganization (CPO-CD®) designation for the Institute of Challenging Disorganization in September of 2011. She specializes in helping seniors and baby boomers downsize and get organized.

Omar Vazquez ’97 Cert. was named assistant principal of George Washington Middle School in Wayne, New Jersey.

Joanne Scarpa Gerb ’99 and Jason Gerb ’00 celebrated the birth of their son, Hudson Joseph, on New Year’s Day 2012. He joins big brother, Caden, 3.

Christina Guarneri ’99, ’03 MA authored the novel *See No Evil* and has traveled the tri-state area with her newest seminar, “Ethical Leadership in the 21st Century: The Issues in Public Policy.”

Lorene Scafaria ’99, made her feature film directorial debut with *Seeking a Friend for the End of the World*, starring Steve Carell and Keira Knightley, premiering the movie on campus.

’00s

Alicja Delag ’00 is the senior manager at RBC Capital Market LLC in New York, covering technical accounting questions under US GAAP and IFRS.

Carlos Garcia ’00 recently received a master’s degree in urban education with a concentration in world languages. Prior to this, he attended Montclair State at age 47 to earn his bachelor’s degree with his daughters, Rebecca and Jessica.

Sal Ferraro ’01, an adjunct professor at Montclair State, published *Maneuvering Through the Adventure of Life,* and celebrates his 25th wedding anniversary in November.

Judy Ottenstroer ’01 is the president of the American Marketing Association of New Jersey. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Marketing Dinner Club and MARCOM planning committee.

Nedra Shamberger ’01 accepted a position as adjunct faculty in the Montclair State School of Communication and Media.

Michelle Del Vecchio-Behnkken ’02 was nominated as Teacher of the Year in the Woodland Park school district and received the Governor’s Teacher Recognition Award in May 2011.
Carolyn Little '02 and her husband, Stephen, welcomed their first child, Madison Ava, on May 14, 2012.

Alyson Thelin Davison '02, '04 MA and Jim Davison '03, '09 MA welcomed their first child, Andrew James Thelin Davison, born October 5, 2009.

Melissa Bartnicki '06 married Mark Beelitz in a small ceremony in Shakespeare's Garden in Central Park in New York City on July 13, 2011.

Angela Bubb '06 Cert. was recently named assistant director to the River of God Church Childcare Center in Enola, Pennsylvania.

Nimitt Desai '06 graduated with an MBA in technology management from Stevens Institute of Technology in May 2012.

Michelle Dombrowski '06 and Jason Jacoby '06 married on July 9, 2011, at St. Francis de Sales in Lodi, New Jersey.

Yuri Jadotte '06 was featured in an article entitled “Studying City Life,” in the spring/summer 2012 issue of the UMDNJ Magazine.

Gian Paul Gonzalez '07 has a Christian ministry called 4-One that uses sports to spread a message of hope to young people. He inspired the New York Giants to be “all in,” which became the team’s mantra for a late-season run.

Michael Scozzari '07 and Meghan Arts Scozzari '06 married on June 4, 2011 at Saint Mary's Church in Pompton Lakes, New Jersey.

Jamie Allen '08 MFA moved to Honolulu, Hawaii, and was interviewed by Honolulu Magazine for a spread on emerging artists.

Leigh Scheps '08 joined WBBH-TV, the NBC affiliate in Fort Meyers, Florida, as a reporter.

Michael Scozzari '07 and Meghan Arts Scozzari '06

Leigh Dana Scheps '08

Melissa Bartnicki '06 married Mark Beelitz on July 13, 2011.
Sarah Gagliano '09 has joined 100 Legacy Academy Charter School in Newark, New Jersey, as a founding teacher, teaching middle school mathematics.

Monica Glina '09 was awarded a three-year postdoctoral fellowship with the University of Oslo in Norway. She will be part of a research group focusing on different aspects of literacy, such as beginning reading skills and text comprehension among postsecondary students. Glina was also appointed project director for a grant funded by the Department of Education.

Rachel Camp '10 performed in Buddy – The Buddy Holly Story at the Walnut Street Theater in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She has also performed regionally with Theater Horizon, Flashpoint, 11th Hour, Montgomery Theater and People's Light.

Cleveland Morinvil '10 published a book titled Esclave the 2nd Age: Caste of Nobility and participated in many local engagements about the book.

Rachel O'Connor '10 recently finished touring with the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical In the Heights as the back stage audio engineer.

Michelle Rauch '10 accepted a position as RD supervisor of food and nutritional services at the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation in Saddle Brook, New Jersey.

Cecilee Bonsu '11 was recently married and now lives in Scotland.

Eric Fingerman '11 MAT is starting a job as a math teacher in Paramus, New Jersey. This will be his second year of teaching.

Elizabeth Messina '11 MAT is the author of What’s His Name? John Fiedler: The Man The Face The Voice.

Terry Corallo '12 was promoted to executive director of information services for the Paterson Public School District in Paterson, New Jersey.

Chynna DeStefano '12 recently moved from the Teaneck branch to the corporate office of Hudson City Savings Bank, accepting the position of real estate owned foreclosure specialist.

Drew Heimleich '12 accepted a position with Ernst & Young in its risk management advisory practice based in New York City. He graduated summa cum laude with a degree in accounting and finance.

Heather Kapral '12, the daughter of Don Kapral '79 and Ellen Kapral '81, received outstanding service in her field and in school. She will intern at St. Elizabeth College in Morristown, New Jersey in the fall.

Annette Mendez '12 will return to school to earn a master’s in developmental modules for autism intervention this fall and plans to get married on January 13, 2013.

Jasmine Santiago '12 works as a case manager for a non-profit agency within a substance abuse program. She is working to obtain certification as an addiction and drug counselor and will return to school for her master’s in education with a concentration in mental health.

Noell Saunders '12 works as a news production assistant for CBS Radio.

Amanda Zuniga '12 is currently working on an MFA in poetry at Drew University and works with such distinguished poets as Gerald Stern, Jean Valentine, Joan Larkin and Ross Gay.
Peter Aquino ’83

Peter Aquino ’83 has an entrepreneurial spirit and unflagging ambition, qualities that have served him well through the years. The 51-year-old chairman, president and CEO of Primus Telecommunications, was born and raised in Paterson, New Jersey, where he beat the odds by graduating from John F. Kennedy High School in a class where more than half of the students did not.

“I always wanted to be successful through hard work,” says Aquino, who was both class president and a captain of the high school football team.

He took that ambition to Montclair State, where he majored in finance. “I focused on doing my best in school,” he says. “Montclair was a great place to get a good education and be around really smart people. Many of my finance professors were fantastic.”

His hard work paid off. In his senior year, Aquino received a scholarship from New Jersey Bell (now Verizon) and went to Harvard to assist in teaching a graduate course in international monetary economics and finance. Upon returning from Harvard, Aquino joined New Jersey Bell and eventually Bell Atlantic in Virginia, where he worked in rates and tariffs, finance, competition marketing, operations and regulatory and corporate development.

But after 13 years, Aquino says, he found the telephone company “a little boring.” He left Bell in 1995 to help build a telecommunications company in Venezuela from the ground up.

“It was very entrepreneurial,” he says. “We provided the leadership, planning and oversight of a telephone company from scratch.” The company, Veninfotel (now NetUno), became Latin America’s first fiber-based provider of “triple-play” telecommunications — television, high-speed Internet access and telephone service combined.

When Aquino returned to the states in 2000, the telecom industry was in bad shape. “It was a horrible time,” he says, “but I was having very good career momentum.” He found that his experience overseas, combined with his years at Bell, positioned him to help struggling companies get back on their feet. For the next 10 years Aquino became a restructuring expert, helping several companies through bankruptcy and out toward a resurgence, including RCN Corp, where he served as president and CEO from 2004 to 2010.

Aquino’s advice to students is to get experience overseas. “To succeed at higher-level jobs that are global in nature, you must have some international experience that’s not just from reading a book or newspaper,” he says. “You need to go there and make it part of your repertoire.”

– Diana St. Lifer
Lavinia Rich Buck ’33
Harry Altschule ’35
Jane Mayers Rowland ’36
Catherine Woolley ’36
Joan Bader Bockelmann ’37, ’41 MA
Anna Weidenbacher Foster ’38
Victoria Papale Filas ’39
Olive Guatelli Olson ’39
Ruth Abos ’40
Elaine Katz Adelman ’40
Dorothea Allen ’41, ’49 MA
Frank Grote, Jr. ’41, ’48 MA
Anita Crivelli ’42
Muriel Goldberg Katz ’42
Edith Sykes Murchio ’46
Jeanette Burcham ’47
Alice Evans McCoy ’47
Pauline Ceglia ’49
William Dice ’49
Rita Orlando Lepre ’49
Irving Eli ’49
Leonora Rossi Esposito ’45, ’49 MA
Shirley Osmun ’45
Kathryn Vanderbach Baker ’58
Eugene Davis ’58
Robert Klotz ’58
Evelyn Mullman Kramer ’58
William Clifford ’59, ’67 MA
Margaret Ann Goodwin Pikor ’59
JoAnn Ascoli Baumann ’60
William Cromie ’60, ’64 MA
Helen McGonegal ’60
David Roden ’60, ’65 MA
Evelyn Hpp Packard ’61 MA
Joseph Daut ’62, ’67 MA
Grant Morgan ’62 MA
Susan Bridenstine ’63
Lorraine Siminoe Clavson ’63, ’71 MA
Donald Gray ’63 MA
Frederick Prisco Jr. ’63 MA
David Wilson ’63 MA
Elaine Sibila Myszka ’64
Albert Pajer ’64 MA
Richard “Richie” Sofman ’65, ’80 MA
Alexander Trento ’65
Cornelia “Connie” Wilber ’65
Kathleen Berman Zeitz ’65
Edmund Heilmier ’66 MA
Charles Kazuba ’66
John Kemper ’66
Lorenzo Maglìocchetti ’66 MA
Donald Bowman ’67, ’69 MA
Michael Caruso ’67
Terry Patterson ’67, ’71 MA
Joyce Schaffer ’67
Gertrude “Trudy” Brown ’68 MA
Leroy Dietz ’68 MA
Robert Spreen ’68 MA
Elizabeth Stafford ’68
Joseph Valenti ’68
Irene Cherepowich Lawrence ’69 MA
Elaine Lorenzo Petrancosta ’69
Clintor Dozier ’70 MA
Robert Ellis ’70 MA
Alison Arnold Goodman ’70
Kathleen Brady Hanf ’71
Arvi Saar ’71, ’72 MA
Dolores Watts Sweeney ’71 MA
Victoria Wafer ’71
Patricia Castaldo Weimer ’71
Rosalina Ortiz Busso ’72 MA
Arla Howerter Gallager ’72 MA
James Woldow ’72 MA
Amelia De Lauro ’73 MA
Shelby Tissot Paulhus ’74 MA
Pamela Teagno Ligeour ’75
Denise Miele ’75
Paige Moody ’75 MA
Allan Moore ’75 MA
Winfred Ford ’76
Franklin Heim ’76 MA
Douglas Raynor ’76 MA
Susan McGinley Spohn ’76
Katherine “Shirley” Cecere ’77
Ismael Lafarga ’77
Timothy Shaffery ’77
Eric “Rick” Stein ’77
Dean Uhl ’77
Robert Bonanno ’78 MA
Dorothy Fischer Rosano ’78 MA
Richard Santillo ’78, ’81 MA
Estela Ayala ’79
Mary Fotinis Davatelis ’79, ’81 MA
Robert Kinney ’79
Inge Stafford ’79 MA
Arthur Neufeld ’80
Jewel Schmidt ’80
Evelyn Barrow ’81
Irene Kerceluck Bennett ’81
Glenn Durocher ’81
Thomas Hall ’81 MA
Lorraine Kudelka ’81 MA
Kevin DeFreest ’82 MA
Frederick “Flip” Miller Jr. ’82 MA
Leroy Newell ’82
Phyllis Nowacki ’82
Howard Weiss ’82
Juliann ReDienzo Francia ’83, ’86 MA
Julia Mallalieu ’84
Frank Inzeria ’85 MA
James Keirstead ’85
Lucy Mord’s ’85
Emilie Shadel-Messineo ’85, ’88 MA
Karen Struck ’85
Roger Conocer ’86
Barbara Russonmann ’86
Nancy Coyle ’88 MA
Alison Gebbie ’88
Paula Von Bargen Ruocco ’88 MA
Katherine Malanga ’90 MA
Thomas Gannon ’92 MA
Susan Nunn Stalter ’94 MA
Marco Cera ’04 MA
Robert Egan ’04
John Pinelli ’04
Kathleen Malone ’05
Zahira Zeanat ’05
US Army Sgt, Shauna Broglebank-Adams ’08
Although he retired 20 years ago, Professor Emeritus Murray Present still gets together with former students. Recalls Karen Kelly Travellin ’82: “We never wanted to disappoint him, and his high expectations forced us to excel.” Present, who taught piano from 1948 until his retirement in 1992, is fondly remembered for his quiet, professional manner, consummate musicianship and deep interest in his students’ success. He was recently feted by his “fan club” this summer, when former students gathered for a piano majors’ reunion and celebration of his 91st birthday. “I certainly wasn’t one of the most talented students Murray ever came across,” says Karen Kayser Lagos ’66. “But he saw what I needed to accomplish and made me into the best piano player I could possibly be.” Read more about him at montclair.edu/lasting-lessons/Present.

Tell us about faculty members who made a difference during your time at Montclair State: editor@mail.montclair.edu.
Welcome Home

Come back to campus for Homecoming! There will be fun, food and festivities for the whole family. Cheer the Red Hawks on to victory as they take on The College of New Jersey at 3:00 p.m.

Returning to Montclair State is definitely worth the trip.

FREE PARKING ALL DAY

Saturday, October 13

montclair.edu/homecoming or 973-655-4141
Don't miss this fall's student theatrical performances:

**CLOUD NINE**, opens October 18 at Fox Theatre

**ATTEMPTS ON HER LIFE**, opens October 19 at Fox Theatre

**CAROUSEL**, opens November 14 at Alexander Kasser Theater

**KARI MARGOLIS PHYSICAL THEATRE**, opens November 29 at Fox Theatre

**WORKS A FOOT**, opens December 5 at Memorial Auditorium

Annual Scholarship Dinner
6:00 p.m., October 25, 2012, at University Hall