



# Rising Stars

Six University at Albany alumni have assumed high-level positions within the Obama administration.

By Lauren E. Cresswell, B.A.'09

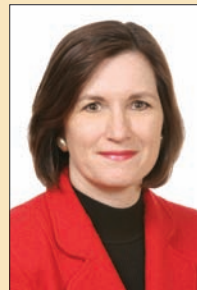
**Bonnie Jenkins, M.P.A.'88**, U.S. Department of State coordinator for Threat Reduction Programs, holds the rank of ambassador. An expert on counterterrorism and arms control, she previously held positions in the departments of Defense and State. Jenkins, who served as counsel to the 9/11 Commission and a consultant to the 2000 National Commission on Terrorism, was most recently a program officer at the Ford Foundation.



**John D. Porcari, M.P.A.'77**, Maryland's transportation secretary from 1999-2003 and from 2007-2009, is the new U.S. deputy secretary of Transportation. Porcari, the former vice-president for Administrative Affairs at the University of Maryland, has also been an environmental planner, a development manager and a development review coordinator for Prince George's County, Md.



**Jennifer Manner, B.A.'86**, is deputy chief in the Federal Communications Commission's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. Previously a principal at ZComm Strategies, LLC, where she advised telecommunications companies about regulatory policy issues, Manner has also served as vice president of Regulatory Affairs at SkyTerra Communications, L.P., and as senior counsel to former FCC Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy.



**Christine Varney, B.A.'78**, is assistant attorney general with the U.S. Department of Justice's Antitrust Division. As a partner at Hogan & Hartson in Washington, D.C., she headed the firm's Internet Practice Group and participated in its Antitrust Practice Group. Assistant to the President and secretary to the Cabinet during the Clinton administration, Varney also served on the Federal Trade Commission for three years.

**John M. McHugh, M.P.A.'77**, who represented New York's 23rd Congressional District from 1993-2009 and served four terms in the New York State Senate, was sworn in Sept. 21 as secretary of the Army. Formerly the ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee, McHugh began his public-service career in the early 1970s as confidential assistant to the city manager in Watertown, N.Y.



**Mark Patterson, B.A.'84**, was appointed U.S. Treasury Department chief of staff last winter. Previously an aide to former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle and the late Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Patterson served more recently as vice president of Government Relations at Goldman Sachs.