Greetings from the UAlbany School of Education.

The School of Education hosts a conference on December 2 and 3, "International testing & its consequences: Who succeeds at PISA and why?" International and national scholars, our faculty and students, and local educators join in lively dialogue about student assessment, educational policy and practice, and cross-national comparisons. This conference is just one embodiment of our School’s values.

We foster conversations between educational scholars and practitioners. Research provides evidence-based guides for practice, and practice provides authentic wisdom and new arenas for inquiry. We work to influence national, state, and local educational policies for the betterment of educational leaders, teachers, students, and their families.

We acknowledge the global context of educational practice in the 21st century. When the School was founded in 1844 as a Normal School, its ambitions were regional, maybe state-wide. Increasingly, the school down the street prepares children to succeed in competition and collaboration with children in China, India, and Kenya.

We care about human development, the development of children and of adults, in schools and out of schools. We care about learning and the growth of cognitive and emotional competence. We care about the mental health of children and adults and the kinds of educational, social, and psychological supports that are available to people of all ages.

This issue of Knowledge captures some of the range of our accomplishments and aspirations, our scholarship and our practical collaborations, successes of our students and of our alumni. The PISA conference is just a microcosm of so many programs conducted through our School. Please continue to share in this tradition of excellence in any way you can, we count on and cherish your support.

Robert Bangert-Drowns
Dean

The School of Education wants to keep up with our graduates!

Please send us your news and notes so we can share in your activities and accomplishments.

Send to:
School of Education Alumni News
ED 240
1400 Washington Ave
Albany, NY 12222
or educationdean@albany.edu
(with SOE Alumni News in the subject line)

New books appear in the spring edition!
The 2011 University at Albany Presidential Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award was given to three School of Education graduates last May.

Marc Nachowitz, Education Theory and Practice, received a State Farms Companies Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Award for his dissertation proposal, Reading for Deep Understanding: Knowledge-Building and Conceptual Artifacts in Secondary English. The award supports doctoral students whose dissertation topics focus on improving K-12 public education to meet current and future economic needs.

Michele Snyder, Michael Mastroianni, and Seoma Rivera, Educational Theory and Practice, were among 41 students selected to take part in the working Sandia K. Axel Institute for Doctoral Students co-hosted by IIECS and the faculty from Pennsylvania State University, and sponsored by the National Association for Research in Science Teaching (NARST). The international group had the opportunity to work with eight mentors with a focus on strengthening the research of the doctoral students through challenging conversations and group work designed to broaden students' doctoral studies by critiquing and strengthening conceptual frameworks as well as examining methodological issues.

The Initiatives for Women (IFW) Awards supports the educational and professional goals of women students, staff, and faculty on the UAlbany campus.

- Perkins, Paolina, IFW Award for Women's Education Award. She will use her IFW grant to cover expenses related to dissertation work that is important to understanding the experiences, perceptions, and motivation for working as university part-time faculty in Chile.

- Education Theory and Practice, 2011 IFW Award for Women's Education Award. He will use her IFW grant to cover expenses related to dissertation work that is important to understanding the experiences, perceptions, and motivation for working as university part-time faculty in Chile.

- Perry, Dr. Kevin, Outstanding Senior Award and Ada Craig Walker Award, Outstanding Senior Award; Sarah DeLaRosa, Outstanding Senior Award; Sean DeMartino, Outstanding Senior Award; Ashley Huet, Mirkfelt Award; Nicole Jean, Great Dane Award, and Livingston, Community Service Leadership Award, Leah Roella, Outstanding Senior Award

The SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence recognizes students who have demonstrated their ability to integrate academic excellence with accomplishments in leadership, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts or career achievement. Eleven students from UAlbany are among 249 SUNY students across the state honored by Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher as recipients of the award in 2011. Three of those students are education minors.

- Nicole Branchini, Hilary Coss, Leah Roella

The 2011 University at Albany Presidential Distinction Doctoral Dissertation Award was given to three School of Education graduates last May.

- Martin Albert, Reading, Enhancing Literacy: Among Rural, Work-Oriented Youth: A Cultural Analysis, Dissertation chair: George Kambrellas

- Cristina Maita de la Pena, Policy and Development, Counseling Psychologies, How Do Therapists Act with Adolescents in the Context of Family Therapy? An Examination of Relational Communication Patterns, Dissertation chairs: Myrna Friedlander and Valeria Escudero.

- Anzel Scheker-Mendoza, Educational Administration and Policy Studies, Educational Reform and Teachers’ Decision Making: Relationship Between the Intended and the Implemented Reading Curriculum in Dominica Primary School, Dissertation chair: Gilbert Valverde

Sanford H. Levine Remembered Through New Doctoral Fellowship

Professor Sanford Levine of Educational Administration and Policy Studies (EAPS) passed away on November 18, 2009.

Sanford H. Levine spent over 20 years as a faculty member at the University at Albany; he taught first as an adjunct and then in 1997 became full-time professor in EAPS. He pursued interests under a program on policy and law, and taught higher education law for masters and doctoral students. Sanford retired in 2007, returning to adjunct status and continuing affiliation with the Department until his passing.

Alan Wagner, professor in EAPS and former department chair, fondly recalls Levine’s remarks at the SUNY 60th Anniversary Scholarly Conference in April 2009. “Sanford set out his own account of the events and interests that shaped SUNY’s earliest days. It was typical Sanford: thoughtful, measured, wise, and powerfully reasoned. Much like his contributions to EAPS.”

Robert Bangert-Drowns, dean of the School of Education, commented on Levine’s academic contributions. “Sanford gave to all aspects of public higher education in New York—as a key player in SUNY Administration, as an educator, as a scholar, and as a colleague of integrity and insight in departmental, school, and university government.”

Prior to coming to the University at Albany, Levine was admitted to the New York Bar at age 23 and spent his long career as an attorney, joining the State University of New York’s Council Office in 1970. During his time there he was influential in shaping case law on significant higher education issues in the New York and federal courts. Upon leaving this Office, the law library he famously looked after was named the Sanford H. Levine Law Library.

Up to $3,500 will be available each year for The Levine Fellowship which is intended to help defray the cost of fieldwork and preparation of a student’s doctoral dissertation and to support a professional development experience in the fellowship year.

The School of Education is grateful to the following donors of The Sanford Levine Fellowship; Dr. D. Bruce Johnstone, former SUNY Chancellor and Distinguished Professor of Higher and Comparative Education at the University at Buffalo, Dr. Clifford R. Wharton, Jr., former SUNY Chancellor, Federico V. Salerno, former Chairman, SUNY Board of Trustees, Ambassador Donald M. Blinken, former Chairman, SUNY Board of Trustees; and Mrs. Margaret Levine and the family of Sanford H. Levine.
In Memoriam
LaVerne M. Fadale – LaVerne Fadale passed away on January 15, 2011. Dr. Fadale was director of the School of Education’s Two-Year College Development Center (later known as the Center for Innovation and Career Development), starting in 1993. After her retirement from UAlbany, she was a consultant for the community college system of SUNY, and assisted with women’s advancement at Albany Community College. Dr. Fadale participated in the School’s Scholarship Celebration in 2008 where she presented the first Gene Winter Scholarship in memory of her close colleague, Gene Winter.

Alumni News
Maura Bol (Ph.D. ’09 Educational Administration and Policy Studies) is world languages subject supervisor at Bethlehem Central High School. She is chair of her doctoral work committee and a partner for academic affairs at UAlbany, to receive its first Distinguished Public Service Award at the University’s Burton Lecture April 3.

John H. Dunkle (Ph.D. ’95 Counseling Psychology) is Executive Director of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at Northwestern University. He is a licensed psychologist in Illinois and New York and is credited by the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology. He has published several articles on college student mental health and about ethical and legal issues related to working in a university counseling center environment.

Michael Klingman (M.S. ’02 Science Education) was named principal of Niskayuna Central School District’s School 1. Prior to becoming the district’s science supervisor for four years, Klingman was the science coordinator and a building administrator in the Mohonasen Central School District. Before that, he taught science at William S. Hall Middle School in Albany.

Tisha Lewis (Ph.D. ’09 Reading) was a finalist in the Outstanding Dissertation of the Year award from the International Reading Association for her dissertation, Family Literacy and Digital Literacies: A Redefined Approach to Examining Social Practices of an African-American Family. She is assistant professor of Middle-Secondary Education and Instructional Technology in the College of Education at Georgia State University.

Anne McGill-Franzen (Ph.D. ’88 Reading) was inducted into the Reading Hall of Fame. She is professor and director of the Reading Center at the University of Tennessee Knoxville and has made a tremendous impact on the field of reading through her research and teaching.

The University at Albany Alumni Association recognizes alumni and friends of the University for their outstanding achievements and service to the University and community. These individuals personally the University Alumni Association were honored at the Excellence Awards Gala in Albany last spring.

Distinguished Alumni Award
Richard Loborski M.S. ’76, C.A.S. ’83, Ph.D. ’93
Bertha E. Brimmer Medal
Beth Ann Brimmer
Excellence in Education Award
Charles S. Druckik M.S. ’77, M.S. ’79

The School of Education proudly nominated William B. Hedberg ’70. Dr. Hedberg has made an outstanding title for academic affairs at UAlbany, to receive its first Distinguished Public Service Award at the University’s Burton Lecture April 3.

Rising through successive positions over 37 years, Dr. Hedberg has been instrumental in the University at Albany’s growth as a modern research university. He has influenced every aspect of the academic enterprise, including personnel, budgeting, programming, support services, and academic facilities. Serving seven provosts since joining the Office of Academic Affairs, his presence contributes vitally to the continuity of university administration. Dr. Hedberg helped establish the Burton Lecture in 1985 and has had a significant role in this annual gathering ever since.

He has contributed decades of support to Wildwood Programs, Inc., a non-profit organization that assists children and adults with complex learning and developmental disorders, and he is currently president of the Wildwood Programs board.

Faculty News
The School welcomes two new faculty members to the Division of Counseling Psychology in the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology.

Joseph L. Norton - Joe Norton passed away on May 10, 2011. Dr. Norton was professor of counseling psychology in the School of Education from 1963 until he retired in 1983, remaining active in School and University events throughout retirement. He served on countless community associations and councils and helped establish others. Dr. Norton received the Humanitarian of the Year award from St. Lawrence University and also from the Association of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexuals and Transgender in Counseling, and in 2009 received the Harvey Milk Award.

Dr. Martin earned her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. His clinical interests include working with veterans, college students, substance abuse, trauma, and eating disorders.

Jason Lane, Reading, with Professor Gay Boyce of James Madison University, received a 2011 Elva Knight grant from the International Reading Association for their proposal, a mixed methods study of literacy engagement and its influence on youth identity and relationships.

Istvan Kecskes, Educational Theory and Practice, received a 2011 University at Albany Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Activities. Dr. Kecskes has a profound influence on research in areas related to second language learning, the relationship of language and culture, and sociocultural approaches to linguistic variability and proficiencies specifically.


Jasmine Lane, Educational Administration and Policy Studies, was awarded $10,326 for her PhD dissertation, “The Quadrant for Policy Research for the project, Comparative Study of Educational Systems in the United Kingdom and Argentina.”

Judith Langen, Arthur Applebee, Kristina Willen, and Marc Neckowitz, Educational Theory and Practice, co-authored the book of Anna J. Literacy Learning and Literacy Instruction for the high quality symposium they planned for the upcoming Literacy Research Association Conference in December. The group will use the award money to assist ETA doctoral students involved in literacy research to present findings at the conference.

Debi May, Jane Donzella, and Lisa Grigpo-Gardner, Educational and Counseling Psychology, and Ginny Goarley and Cheryl Doster, Reading, received $34,000 from the New York State Education Department for their three-year Grade Level Clustered Rich Teacher Preparation Pilot Program, which will provide support services and scholarship stipends for high school media and increase attention of those teachers to positively impact student growth and achievement.


Alain Wagner, Educational Administration and Policy Studies, received a 2011 University at Albany Award for Excellence in Academic Service. An economist, Dr. Wagner’s work examines cross-national patterns and policies that define how knowledge and skill profiles, as shaped by education policies (governance, accountability, finance) and also relevant policies adopted within labor, social welfare, economic development, finance and trade policy portfolios.

Dr. Wagner also received the State University Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Academic Service. SUNY presents these honors annually to acknowledge and provide system-wide recognition for consistently superior professional achievement and to encourage the ongoing pursuit of excellence.

Jianwei Zhang (Ph.D.), Educational Theory and Practice, and Mei-En Chen (Co-Pi), Computer Science, received $550,000 from the National Science Foundation for Founding Collective Program in Online Discourse for Social Knowledge Building. Inquiry-based learning requires a sustained, progressive trajectory to be productive. This three-year project will produce conceptual, pedagogical, and technological advances to make sustained, progressive inquiry more achievable among young students and further extend it to a network of classrooms that builds shared knowledge and resources for continual advancement of ideas.

School News
In 2012 the U.S. News & World Report rankings of grade schools of education placed UAlbany’s School of Education at #75 in the nation—to rise from one spot from the list. The 2011 is only ranked SUNY School of Education and 14th among Schools of Education in New York State.

The School’s Teacher Education Program which includes options for teacher certification in Early Childhood, Childhood Education, Adolescent Education, Students with Disabilities, Literacy, and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, earned TEAC accreditation in 2010. The School Counseling Program in Suffolk County was awarded $20,000 by the National Center for Education Akron Accreditation Council (TEAC) accreditation signifies that a program prepares competent, caring, and qualified professional educators. The Program first earned TEAC accreditation in 2005.

UAlbany was named to the 2010 U.S. President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for its efforts to engage its students, faculty and staff in meaningful service to the community. The Corporation for National and Community Service, the federal agency for national service and volunteerism, oversees this program, which recognizes colleges and universities for their impact on issues such as environmental protection, neighborhood revitalization, and support of at-risk youth. The School of Education’s Community Service Center (ESCC) was one of those in UAlbany’s application, selected for its strength in its program, longstanding relationships with partners, and impact in the greater area. ESCC was established in 1967 and last year placed over 200 undergraduate at 66 sites, including 25 school districts, to tutor and mentor pre-K to 12th grade students.

The University’s Faculty Research Awards Program (FRAP) provides seed funding for a median number of faculty research projects that have strong potential for future external funding. The following proposals from School of Education faculty were selected for support:

Kathryn Schiller, Educational Administration and Policy Studies, Mapping Middle and High School Core State Standards to Trends in Math and Science Curriculum Frameworks.

The University’s Conference Support Award is available on a competitive basis to support research conferences organized by UAlbany faculty. Haining Wei, Educational Administration and Policy Studies, received an award for his conference titled, International Testing & Its Consequences: Who Succeeds at PISA and Why? for December 2 & 3.
School of Education Student Scholarships

We are pleased to announce the recipients of the 2011 School of Education Scholarships. The awards were presented May 5th at a ceremony and reception well attended by School of Education faculty, University colleagues, donors, and friends and families of the scholarship recipients.

The Class of 1935 Award, established by members of the Class of 1935 and contributions to their fund, supports senior undergraduate or graduate students with demonstrated financial need who plan to pursue a career in teaching. Elizabeth Comstock, General Education Studies.

The Class of 1936 Scholarship, established by members of the Class of 1936 and contributions to their fund, supports senior undergraduate or graduate students with demonstrated financial need and good academic standing who plan to pursue a career in teaching. Julie Capp, Special Education and Literacy.

Louise Swain Baldwin and Norman Burton Baldwin Technology Education Scholarship was established by Howard Baldwin in honor of his parents. The New York State Education for Teachers graduates, and is awarded to a student whose course of study or research demonstrates a commitment to the integration of technology and learning. Julie Smit, Reading.

The alumna of the Beta Zeta Sorority established the Beta Zeta Scholarship to support a student who plans to pursue a career in teaching, with preference to the recipient to be a female student. Franciska Blomquist, Special Education and Literacy.

The Malec E. Bln Endowment was established by Mr. Malcolm Bln, a 1954 graduate of the New York State College for Teachers, and supports students enrolled in teacher preparation programs. Emily Pohl, Special Education and Literacy.

The Anna Maria Bonaventura Memorial Scholarship commemorates Anna Maria Bonaventura ’74, '78, ’97, and is awarded to a student graduate student in the School of Education interested in teaching English as a second language. Nicole Montgomery, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

The Mary M. Briggs Scholarship supports a student with demonstrated financial need who is pursuing a career in teaching. Ms. Mary Briggs, M.A., established this fund in 2002. Heather Miller, Childhood Education-Literacy.

The J. Armlin Scholarship, established by J. Armlin, associate director of the Capital Area School Development Association, and exhibits excellent potential and enthusiasm for a career in education. Julie Krentz, Secondary Biology Education.

The Class of 1956 Scholarship was established by Mr. Malcolm Blum, Ira ’43 and Elsie Ferber ’43, in memory of their parents Ira ‘43 and Elsie Ferber ’43 by his daughter, Dr. Julia Filippone ’92, ’97. The fund supports graduate students in the Department of Education, with a preference to the recipient to be a female student. Professor Mauritz Johnson, is awarded to a graduate student pursuing a career in education, preferably in the area of curriculum and instruction. Marie Nachevich, Curriculum and Instruction.

The Marquise Johnson Scholarship, established by an anonymous donor, the Secondary Education Scholarship is awarded to a student enrolled or enrolling in a School of Education program who demonstrates intent and academic achievement.

The Dr. Ralph D. Keeny Endowment was established by Marjorie W. Keeny ’25 in memory of her husband Ralph Keeny ’28, professor emeritus of the Department of Education. This fund supports graduate students in the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology enrolled in the school counseling and guidance program. Hilary J. Jenkins, School Counseling.

The Dr. Ralph D. Keeny Endowment was established by Marjorie W. Keeny ’25 in memory of her husband Ralph Keeny ’28, professor emeritus of the Department of Education. This fund supports graduate students in the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology enrolled in the school counseling and guidance program. Hilary J. Jenkins, School Counseling.

The Jean Edgengrous Goff ’38 Graduate Scholarship in Education, established by Jean Edgengrous Goff, Class of 1938, is awarded to a School of Education student enrolled in a masters or doctoral program who demonstrates academic promise. Holly Merzdorf, Educational Psychology and Methodology.

The Ralph W. Harriman Fellowship, established by Ione Harriman in memory of her husband, former dean of the School of Education, is awarded to a newly admitted graduate student who demonstrates leadership, service, and commitment to education, and has a record of high academic achievement and the promise of future accomplishment. This fellowship places special emphasis on supporting students who have had limited opportunities to access graduate education. Two Harriman Fellows were renewed this year. Trinity Romeros Cato, Educational Administration and Policy Studies, 2010 Fellow from Mexico. Paulina Bertins, Educational Administration and Policy Studies, 2008 Fellow from Chile.

Jack’s Fund, established by family and friends in memory of Professor John “Jack” Elifer, supports a student with a demonstrated interest in working with disadvantaged individuals who has shown exceptional academic achievement. Jie Liu, Tufresvsky, School Psychology.

The Maurice Johnson Scholarship, established by an anonymous donor, is awarded to a student enrolled or enrolling in a School of Education program who demonstrates intent and academic achievement. Matthew Silmen, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

The Dr. K. Craig Simo Education Scholarship, established by Elizabeth Simo in memory of her husband, former professor of science education at UAlbany, is awarded to a matriculated School of Education student who demonstrates exceptional academic achievement and an interest in pursuing a career in science education, preferably chemistry or physics. Jonathan Dunn, Curriculum and Instruction.

The School of Education Excellence in Teaching Awards are given to the most outstanding of our part-time instructors. Recipients in 2011 were:

Beverly Fung, Secondary Biology Education, was this year awarded to a student enrolled in the School of Education who demonstrates an interest in working with at-risk students.

The following awards were given for the first time in 2011:

Established by Susan Benjamin ’80 in memory of her brother, the Matthew John Petrich Scholarship is awarded to a first year graduate student in the Department of Reading who is in excellent academic standing. Suzanne Davis, Reading.

Established by local businesswoman Mr. Michael C. Hoffmeyer, the Jake Alexander Nursing Scholarship is awarded in memory of his grandson, to a student enrolled in the School of Education who provides direct services to students in the Albany, Schenectady, Troy, or Cohoes school district as a classroom teacher or specialist.

Colleen Bolin, Childhood Education-Literacy.

Made possible through a gift from Jessica Smith ’82 and Wendy Chia-Smith ’84, their Young Scholar Award supported a student pursuing a career in secondary education. The following awards were given for the first time in 2011:

Established by friends and colleagues in memory of former assistant vice president for academic affairs at UAlbany, the Paul Sanford Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a student pursuing a career in secondary teaching or school leadership who has shown exceptional academic achievement.

Harry Alexander Fink, School Leadership.

The Gladys G. Sawyer ’37 & J. William Sawyer ’31 Scholarships are awarded to undergraduate students pursuing a career in education.

Liza Grant, Undergraduate English with Educational Studies minor.
The school of Education Student Scholarships

We are pleased to announce the recipients of the 2011 School of Education Scholarships. The awards were presented May 5th at a ceremony and reception well attended by School of Education faculty, University colleagues, donors, and friends and families of the scholarship recipients.

The Class of 1955 Award, established by members of the Class of 1955 and contributions to their fund, supports senior undergraduate or graduate students with demonstrated financial need who plan to pursue a career in teaching. Elizabeth Comstock, General Education Studies

The Class of 1956 Scholarship, established by members of the Class of 1956 and contributions to their fund, supports senior undergraduate or graduate students with demonstrated financial need and good academic standing who plan to pursue a career in teaching.

Julie Capp, Special Education and Literacy

Lauren Beaudard, Literacy

The Louise Swive Baldwin and Norman Burton Baldwin Technology Education Scholarship was established by Howard Baldwin in honor of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Baldwin, and is awarded to a student whose course of study or research demonstrates a commitment to the integration of technology and learning.

Julie Smit, Reading

The alumnae of the Beta Zeta Sorority established the Beta Zeta Scholarship to support a student who plans to pursue a career in teaching, with preference for the recipient to be a female student.

Francisca Blomstern, Special Education and Literacy

The Malec E. Blum Endowment was established by Mr. Malcolm Blum, a 1955 graduate of the New York State College for Teachers, and supports students enrolled in teacher preparation programs.

Emmy Pahl, Special Education and Literacy

The Anna Maria Bonaventura Memorial Scholarship commemorates Anna Maria Bonaventura '74, '78, '97, and is awarded to a graduate student in the School of Education interesed in teaching English as a second language.

Nicole Montgomery, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

The Mary M. Briggs Scholarship supports a student with demonstrated financial need who is pursuing a career in teaching. Ms. Mary Briggs, M.A. '51, established this scholarship.

Katie Reed, Secondary Social Studies Education

The Arvid J. Burke Scholarship honors Dr. Arvid Burke, professor in the Department of Educational Administration and Policy Studies from 1960 to 1971, and supports students in an advanced graduate degree program who have demonstrated outstanding academic potential and talent.

Daniel Kees, Educational Administration and Policy Studies

Alyssa Skilmund, Counseling Psychology

Mercedes Taylor, Educational Administration and Policy Studies

Donna Watson, Educational Administration and Policy Studies

Heather Miller, Secondary Education, received the Nelson J. Arata Scholarship. This award is presented to a University at Albany graduate who is entering the teaching profession. It honors a pre-k Kindergarten teacher who displays a strong academic background and commitment to teaching; exhibits excellent potential and enthusiasm for teaching; demonstrates work with children or students over time in either volunteer or job-related activities; and fosters cultural diversity in work with students. Established in memory of teacher, counselor, and associate director of the Albany ArtsScholarship Development Association, Nelson J. Arata, this scholarship is awarded each spring at the C.A.S.A.D.I. annual meeting and awards dinner.

The Elizabeth H. Christen Scholarship, established by Elizabeth H. Christen '78, is awarded to a student enrolled in a literacy program who has a special interest in adult literacy.

Stephanie Affinito, Reading

The Richard M. Clark Scholarship honors retired Dr. Richard Clark’s distinguished career in the School of Education and supports a doctoral student who has a paper accepted for presentation at a professional conference.

Georgia Brooks, Educational Psychology and Methodology

The Delta Omega Omega Scholarship fund is endowed by gifts from the alumnae of the Delta Omega Omega sorority at the New York State College for Teachers. The scholarships are made possible in large part by a generous bequest from Delta Omega alumna Julia Fostier Raker '52. The fund supports female students enrolled in teacher preparation programs.

Emily Westendon, Special Education and Literacy

The Kenneth T. and Kathleen E. Duran Scholarship is awarded to a student who plans to become a public school teacher and has demonstrated high academic achievement. This fund was made possible by a generous gift from Kenneth and Kathleen Duran, to be known as a member of the Class of 1939 and Kathleen (Carron) received her M.S. in 1970.

Olivia Chadwick, Special Education and Literacy

The Dr. Kimberly E. Estrem Memorial Award was established in memory of Dr. Kimberly E. Estrem '92 to support a student working in the Middle Earth Peer Assistance Program and enrolled in the School of Education with a demonstrated interest in working with school, drug, and/or suicide prevention programs at the collegiate level.

Kayte Durstheimer, Counseling Psychology

The Dr. Frank J. Filippose '41, '48, Hillside House Scholarship was established by Hillside House of Cohoes, Inc., in memory of Dr. Frank J. Filippose '41, '48, his daughter, Dr. Julie Filippose '92, '97. This fund supports a matriculated graduate student in the School of Education, the College of Arts and Sciences (Department of Psychology), or the School of Social Welfare with financial need and academic achievement who demonstrates an interest in helping people with developmental disabilities.

Bethany Oehl, Educational Psychology and Methodology

The Ira & Elsa Forber Freedman Education Scholarship, established by David and Ann Freedman in memory of their parents Ira '43 and Elsa Forber Freedman '43, is awarded to a student pursuing a career as a public school educator who has shown exceptional academic achievement.

Deborah Luda Hoffman, Special Education and Literacy

The Jean Edgretzgoth Grff '38 Graduate Scholarship in Education, established by Jean Edgretzgoth Grff, Class of 1938, is awarded to a School of Education student enrolled in a masters or doctoral program who demonstrates academic merit.

Holly Merzlick, Educational Psychology and Methodology

The Ralph W. Harbison Fellowship, established by June Harbison in memory of her husband, former dean of the School of Education, is awarded to a newly admitted graduate student who demonstrates leadership, service, and commitment to education, and has recorded a high level of academic achievement and the promise of future accomplishment. This fellowship places special emphasis on supporting students who have had limited opportunities to access graduate education. Two Harbison Fellows were named this year.

Trinity Romeros Calo, Educational Administration and Policy Studies, 2010 Fellow from Mexico

Paulina Bertino, Educational Administration and Policy Studies, 2008 Fellow from Chile

Jack's Fund, established by family and friends in memory of Professor John “Jack” Ether, supports a student with a demonstrated interest in working with disadvantaged individuals who has shown exceptional academic achievement.

Jia Liu-Trofimovsky, School Psychology

The Maurice Johnson Scholarship, named for former Distinguished Service Professor Maurice Johnson, is awarded to a graduate student pursuing a career in education, preferably in the area of curriculum and instruction.

Marc Nachwosky, Curriculum and Instruction

The Dr. Ralph K. Kennedy Endowment was established by Maryjane W. Kennedy '25 in memory of her husband Ralph Kennedy '25, professor emeritus of the Department of Education at the New York State College for Teachers. The fund supports graduate students in the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology, enrolled in the school counseling and guidance program.

Hilary Justins, School Counseling

Gretveld Hunter Partin, a member of the Class of 1917, left a generous gift for students who plan to become teachers in New York State. Her endowment supports four students this year.

Cortnie Coughlin, Literacy

Heather Flood, Literacy

Kathleen Connolly, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Joanne Lee, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Bette Kowbel-Buret, Education Scholarship Fund to assist students committed to this endowment supported two students this year.

Jerraine Cloth, Literacy

The School of Education Excellence in Teaching Awards are given to the most outstanding of our part-time instructors. Recipients in 2011 were:

Bruce Szelest, teaching in the Department of Educational Administration and Policy Studies since 2006

Britton Schnurr, teaching in the Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology since 2007.

Albert Martino Jr., teaching in the Department of Educational Theory and Practice

Christine Cain, teaching in the Department of Reading since 2006.

To learn more about our endowed scholarship funds, please contact the School of Education Dean’s Office, (518) 442-4985 or educationdean@albany.edu.

The following awards were given for the first time in 2011.

Established by Susan Benjamin '80 in memory of her brother, the Matthew John Pietruch Scholarship is awarded to a first year graduate student in the Department of Reading who is in excellent academic standing.

Suzanne Davis, Reading

Established by local businessman Mr. Michael C. Hoffman, the Jake Alexander Snarrough Memorial Scholarship is awarded in memory of his grandson, to a student enrolled in the School of Education who provides direct services to students in the Albany, Schenectady, Troy, or Cohoes school district as a classroom teacher or specialist.

Colleen Belcher, Childhood Education-Literacy

Made possible through a gift from Joshua Smith '92 and Wendy Chia-Smith '84, their Young Scholar Award supported a student in the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association.

Jassen Vukovic, Curriculum and Instruction

Established by friends and colleagues in memory of former assistant vice president for academic affairs at UAlbany, the Paul Simond Memorial Scholarship is awarded to a student pursuing a career in secondary teaching or school leadership who has shown exceptional academic achievement.

Harry Alexander Finell, School Leadership

The Gladys G. Sawyer ’77 & J. William Sawyer ’71 Scholarships are awarded to undergraduate students pursuing a career in education.

Lora Grant, Undergraduate English with Educational Studies minor

A School of Education Scholarship was this year awarded to a student enrolled in the educational studies minor who demonstrates academic merit.

Sean DeMarinis, Undergraduate Psychology and History with Educational Studies minor

Established by an anonymous donor, the Secondary Education Scholarship is awarded to a student enrolled or enrolling in a School of Education program that leads to an initial, or professional certification in secondary education who demonstrates intent and academic readiness.

Erie Silmo, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

The Dr. R. Craig Sige Speech Science Education Scholarship, established by Elizabeth Sige in memory of her husband, former professor of voice science at UAlbany, is awarded to a matriculated School of Education student who demonstrates exceptional academic achievement and an interest in pursuing a career in science education, preferably chemistry or physics.

Jonathan Dunn, Counselor Education

Seema Rivera, Curriculum and Instruction

The School of Education Excellence in Teaching Awards are given to the most outstanding of our part-time instructors. Recipients in 2011 were:

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Albert Martino Jr., teaching in the Department of Educational Theory and Practice

Christine Cain, teaching in the Department of Reading since 2006.

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Alumni News

Marcia Baik (Ph.D. ’80 Educational Administration and Policy Studies) is world languages subject supervisor at Bethel Central High School. Dr. Baik, who has taught world languages for over 30 years, has a profound influence on research in areas related to second language learning, the relationship of language and culture, and socio-cultural aspects of language learning and language teaching.

John H. Dunkle (Ph.D. ’95 Counseling Psychology) is Executive Director of Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at Northwestern University. He is a licensed psychologist in Illinois and New York and is certified by the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology. He has published several articles on college student mental health and about ethical and legal issues related to working in a university counseling center environment.

Michael Klingman (M.S. ’02 Science Education) was named principal of Statler Elementary School for the 2010-2011 school year. Prior to becoming the district’s science supervisor four years ago, Klingman was the science coordinator and a building administrator in the Mohocon Central School District. Before that, he taught science at William S. Ballantyne Middle School in Albany.

Tisha Lewis (Ph.D. ’09 Reading) was a finalist in the Outstanding Dissertation of the Year Award from the International Reading Association for her dissertation, Family Literacy and Digital Literacies: A Redefined Approach to Examining Social Practices of an African-American Family. She is assistant professor of Middle-Secondary Education and Instructional Technology in the College of Education at Georgia State University.

Anne McGill-Franzen (Ph.D. ’88 Reading) was inducted into the Reading Hall of Fame. She is professor and director of the Reading Center at the University of Tennessee Knoxville and has made a tremendous impact on the field of reading through her research and teaching.

Dr. Bel shares that her doctoral work and dissertation, entitled, “A socio-cognitive approach to pragmatics and communication,” was written with Professor Gay Ivey of James Madison University. Her work has had a profound influence on research in social cognition and communication development.

In Memoriam

LaVerna M. Falade - LaVerna Falade passed away on January 15, 2011. Dr. Falade was director of the School of Education’s Two-Year College Development Center (later known as the Center for Innovation and Career Development) for 30 years. After her retirement from UAlbany, she was a consultant for the community college system of SUNY, and assisted with women’s advancement and career development. Dr. Falade participated in the School’s Scholarship Celebration in 2008 where she presented the first Gene Winter Scholarship in memory of her close colleague, Gene Winter. She is assistant professor of Middle-Secondary Education and Instructional Technology in the College of Education at Georgia State University.

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The 2011 University at Albany Presidential Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award was given to three School of Education graduates last May.

The award supports doctoral students whose dissertation topics focus on improving K-12 public education to meet current and future economic needs.

The Initiatives for Women (IFW) Awards support the educational and professional goals of women students, staff, and faculty on the UAlbany campus.

The President’s Award for Leadership is designed to recognize and reward students who have made significant contributions to enhance the quality of life at UAlbany. Nine students with a declared minor in education received awards this year.

The SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence recognizes students who have demonstrated their ability to integrate academic excellence with accomplishments in leadership, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts or career achievement. Eleven students from UAlbany are among 249 SUNY students across the state honored by Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher as recipients of the award in 2011. Three of those students are

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Greetings from the UAlbany School of Education.

The School of Education hosts a conference on December 2 and 3. “International testing & its consequences: Who succeeds at PISA and why?”

International and national scholars, our faculty and students, and local educators join in lively dialogue about student assessment, educational policy and practice, and cross-national comparisons. This conference is just one embodiment of our School’s values.

We foster conversations between educational scholars and practitioners. Research provides evidence-based guides for practice, and practice provides authentic wisdom and new arenas for inquiry. We work to influence national, state, and local educational policies for the betterment of educational leaders, teachers, students, and their families.

We acknowledge the global context of educational practice in the 21st century. When the School was founded in 1844 as a Normal School, its ambitions were regional, maybe state-wide. Increasingly, the school down the street prepares children to succeed in competition and collaboration with children in China, India, and Kenya.

We care about human development, the development of children and of adults, in schools and out of schools. We care about learning and the growth of cognitive and emotional competence. We care about the mental health of children and adults and the kinds of educational, social, and psychological supports that are available to people of all ages.

This issue of Knowledge captures some of the range of our accomplishments and aspirations, our scholarship and our practical collaborations, successes of our students and of our alumni. The PISA conference is just a microcosm of so many programs conducted through our School. Please continue to share in this tradition of excellence in any way you can; we count on and thrive by your successes of our students and of our alumni. The range of our accomplishments and aspirations, our scholarship and our practical collaborations, successes of our students and of our alumni.

Knowledge

Vellutino named Distinguished Professor

Frank Vellutino has been awarded the rank of Distinguished Professor by the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees.

The Distinguished Professorship is a system-wide recognition of the scholarship of SUNY’s most exceptional and accomplished faculty. It is bestowed upon those who have achieved national or international distinction and a prominent reputation within a chosen field.

Dr. Vellutino is an internationally renowned scholar whose 40-year career has informed the work of researchers on issues related to literacy development, particularly understanding and supporting the struggling reader. In more than 70 journal articles and 140 professional presentations, and a book still considered by many the definitive text of his area, Vellutino has produced a widely cited—often seminal—literature informing researchers of reading, dyslexia, human development, cognition, psychology, linguistics, instruction, special education, and neurosciences.

Appointed to two departments at UAlbany—the School of Education’s Educational and Counseling Psychology, and the College of Arts and Sciences’ Psychology—and director of the Child Research and Study Center, Vellutino has contributed immensely to the intellectual standing of the State University of New York and to the intellectual life of academics and students in Albany, across New York, and around the world.

Robert Bangert-Drowns, dean of the School of Education, remarked, “Frank Vellutino is not only an extraordinarily productive scholar, but a transformative one, changing more than once how scholars and educators understand and aid the struggling reader.” Said Educational and Counseling Psychology department chair, Kevin Quinn, “While [Frank] continues to be ambitious, goal-directed and productive, he is likewise generous and collaborative. He shares his extensive expertise willingly and selflessly... He’s a great colleague.”

Dr. Vellutino has been principal investigator or co-investigator in 13 funded projects awarded $16 million. He has served on the editorial boards of 13 journals and on numerous advisory groups, including the National Reading Study Panel, the advisory committee for the national Reading First program, and the NYS English Language Arts (ELA) Standards Revision Research Expert Team. He is recipient of UAlbany’s Award for Excellence in Research, an award from the Special Education Research Special Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association for “important and lasting contributions” to research in special education, and a “Friend of Reading” Award from the New York State Reading Association.

In 2010, Vellutino received the honor of induction into the International Reading Hall of Fame. Induction into the Reading Hall of Fame requires at least 25 years of active involvement in the field of reading, broad and high regard in the profession, and significant contributions to research, leadership, and service.

Vellutino is currently working with principal investigator Lynn Gelzheiser and other School of Education colleagues on a $3.1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, for research aimed at assisting struggling readers. The four-year project will investigate the effectiveness of the Interactive Strategies Approach—Extended (ISA-X) as a small group reading intervention for intermediate-grade struggling readers.