Scholarship in Action through Community Engagement

Nancy Cantor
Chancellor and President
Syracuse University

University at Albany, SUNY
March 2, 2009
Universities at their Best:

✓ Educate fully informed and committed citizens
✓ Provide access to opportunity
✓ Strengthen democratic institutions
✓ Create innovations that matter, share knowledge generously
✓ Inform & engage public opinion & debate
✓ Cultivate & sustain public intellectuals
“…so desolate, it would make an owl weep to fly over it.”
An 1820 Visitor to Central New York*

“Nothing short of madness…”
Thomas Jefferson*

Legacy of Social Justice

Haudenosaunee
Tree of Peace

Harriet Tubman

Seneca Falls Suffragists

Amazing Grace

TALES FROM THE SALT CITY
Conceived and directed by Ping Chong
October 14 - November 2
Legacy of Culture

Landmark Theater

Syracuse Stage

Everson Museum

Kuumba Project

Erie Canal Museum

THE MAN AND THE MYTH
AUGUST 12 - OCTOBER 19, 2008
Legacy of Natural Resources
The Connective Corridor
The Anchor

UNIVERSITY

CITY
The Connective Corridor

An Urban Pathway

Urban Reforestation

Wireless Hot Spots

Public Arts Venues
The Urban Video Project
Scholarship in Action

Strategically Invest in Strengths

Engage Beyond Our Boundaries

Collaborate Broadly

Break Down Silos

Build Pipeline of Inclusive Human Capital

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Scholarship in Action

• Reciprocity on the two-way street
• Prepare our students in the world
• Reward public scholarship
• Build an “architecture of inclusion”* in a zero-sum world
• Sustain impact on and off campus

Scholarship in Action

Global Collaboratories

Economic & Social Entrepreneurship

Onondaga Lake: Sacred Site/Superfund Site

Environmental Sustainability

Arts, Technology & Design

Inclusive Urban Education
Environmental Sustainability & Justice

Onondaga Lake: Sacred Site/Superfund Site

Before
• Clean and Renewable Energy
• Indoor Environmental Quality
• Water Resources

After
Syracuse Center of Excellence in Environmental & Energy Systems
• Clean and Renewable Energy
• Indoor Environmental Quality
• Water Resources

Design by Toshiko Mori
Environmental Sustainability & Justice

Biodiesel Entrepreneurs: Student Green Energy Co-op
Neighborhood & Cultural Entrepreneurship

- Minority & Women Business Enterprises Incubator
- Micro-Credit Loans
- Entrepreneurs Association
- Young Entrepreneurs Seminars
Neighborhood & Cultural Entrepreneurship

- Entrepreneurial “SWAT” Teams
- eProfessors
- ePractitioners
- eProjects
- Infuse curricula

January 2008

Arts & Culture

Technology

Neighborhoods

Creating a Recipe for Entrepreneurs
Art, Technology & Design
The Warehouse

Before

After

Before

After
BRIGHT IDEAS | DESIGN
An Elephant in the Room
Art, Technology & Design
The Near West Side
New West Side Story?
Proposal has the Potential to Transform an Ailing Neighborhood

- Green renovations on residences
- Renovate vacant warehouses for artist & performance spaces
- Create schools as centers of community
- Sustainable food markets
- Latino/a cultural center: La Casita
- Artist relocation
Inclusive Urban Education
Inclusive Urban Education
Say Yes to Education & Economic Development

✓ Sustained academic, social, health, and family supports throughout K-12

✓ Creates new, diverse college pipeline

✓ Early incentive/promise of free college education at 23 private institutions & SUNY/CUNY

✓ Opportunities for students & faculty across disciplines

✓ First district-wide Say Yes implementation in nation

“The road to economic competitiveness and renewal runs right through our schools.”
Governor David Paterson, 2009 State of the State Address

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
Tufts University
Penn University of Pennsylvania
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE
RIT Rochester Institute of Technology
Rensselaer
Local-Global Resonance

- Gateway to India, Mumbai
- Global Collaboratories
- Neighborhood & Cultural Entrepreneurship
- Environmental Sustainability
- Shen Wei Dance Arts
- Arts, Technology & Design
- Inclusive Urban Education

Opening Doors in Dubai

Shen Wei Dance Arts

Global Collaboratories

Neighborhood & Cultural Entrepreneurship

Environmental Sustainability

Arts, Technology & Design

Inclusive Urban Education
“This is an eraser as you see. It fixes your mistakes. I wish it fixes the world’s mistakes.”

Justus Lacey, Grade 5
Edward Smith Elementary School