

# Where Are They Now?

By Carol Olechowski

**A**s a professional basketball player in Europe, former Great Dane and UAlbany “cover guy” **Jamar Wilson, B.A.’06**, is doing very well. After graduation, he signed with Belgacom Liege, a Belgian team that, halfway through the 2008-09 season, was “undefeated in the European Cup.” Wilson likes Belgium: “The food is great, the weather isn’t too much different from New York, and I am getting a chance to experience another culture.” He lives in the French-speaking part of the country, “so I have been pushing myself to learn as much French as possible. *French 101* and *102* from freshman year is coming in handy.” When he isn’t practicing his language skills, Wilson enjoys his time on the court. He and his teammates play not only in Belgium, but all over Europe, “including the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Poland, France and Latvia.”



**B**rian Lillis, **B.S.’08**, Wilson’s former teammate, now lives in Chicago. A financial analyst at Allstate Insurance Company’s home office, he runs the financial forecasting/planning and weekly and monthly reporting for the firm’s Marketing Technology Organization; “I analyze all the numbers around the organization and make recommendations.” Since joining Allstate, Lillis has found his UAlbany business degree “very

beneficial. I am able to directly relate many of the projects I completed at the University to real-life examples. My classes provided me the education I needed to get into and live in the business world.” Lillis still enjoys playing basketball; he’s joined “a couple of leagues with friends in Chicago.” He feels at home there: “I’m glad I got used to the cold weather in Albany, because it’s just as cold here.”



**W**e recently caught up with **Professor Emerita Sophia Lubensky**, who retired in 2007. The former Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures (LLC) faculty member – “being one of those for whom the wide, wide world is divided into Manhattan and the rest” – now resides in New York City, “within walking distance of Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall.” For the past three years, Lubensky has remained close to home, but this spring, she plans a trip to Russia.

**Editor’s Note: Beginning with this issue of UAlbany, you can catch up with friends, former classmates, and active and retired faculty in “Where Are They Now?”**