

From the Podium | And Beyond

By Carol Olechowski
Photos by Mark Schmidt

Berman, Faerman Are Distinguished Teaching Professors

The State University of New York Board of Trustees elevated Professor of English Jeffrey Berman and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Sue Faerman to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in June.



Berman, who joined the UAlbany faculty in 1973, received both the University at Albany's President's Award for Excellence in Teaching and Advising and the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. During his career, he has taught 30 courses at every level. Berman is also the author of such books as *Empathic Teaching: Education for Life* (2004) and *Dying to Teach: A Memoir of Love, Loss and Learning* (2007).

Faerman has been a member of the University faculty since 1987, when she joined the Department of Public Administration and Policy. A recipient of the President's Award for Excellence in Academic Service and the President's and Chancellor's awards for Excellence in Teaching, she is also a Collins Fellow. Faerman has served as dean of Undergraduate Studies since 1999 and as vice provost since 2005. She continues to teach at least two courses each year.



The Distinguished Teaching Professor designation recognizes consistently superior teaching, scholarship and professional growth, as well as service to students and adherence to rigorous academic standards.

12 UAlbany Students Receive Chancellor's Awards

A dozen UAlbany seniors were recognized with 2007 Chancellor's Awards for Student Excellence last spring.

In all, 283 students throughout the State University of New York system were honored. The UAlbany honorees, hailing from hometowns throughout New York State and representing a range of academic disciplines, were Amina Ayad; Nicholas Chiuchiolo; Amanda Garris; Kelly Kressner; Alyssa Lotmore; Sandra MacGregor; Stacey Martin; Kelly Maynes; Ian Pickus; Robert Reus; Joshua Sisskind; and Jason Zogg.

New Biotech Facility Rises at East Campus

Taconic, the largest tenant at UAlbany's East Campus, will soon occupy even more space: a \$13.2 million, 23,000-square-foot biotechnology building scheduled for completion this fall.

The University at Albany Foundation is providing \$4.1 million for site work and shell construction; a portion of that contribution will come from a \$1.9 million capital appropriation earmarked for future East Campus upgrading and expansion, and made possible through the efforts of New York State Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno. Taconic will provide the remaining \$9.1 million needed to equip the breeding facility. The Empire State Development Corporation has also awarded the firm a \$175,000 grant to support the construction project.

Founded 55 years ago, Taconic is one of the largest laboratory rodent providers in the world.



University at Albany Foundation President George R. Hearst III, Taconic President Todd Little, UAlbany Officer in Charge and Provost Susan Herbst, and New York State Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno are pictured with an artist's rendering of Taconic's new biotech facility. Construction on the building will be completed shortly.



Ben Long

Byron Hits Another High Note

Donald E. Byron, a visiting associate professor of music at UAlbany, has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship.

A clarinetist, composer, arranger and social critic, Byron was *Down Beat* magazine's Jazz Artist of the Year in 1992. He has performed and recorded with numerous artists, including the Duke Ellington Orchestra and the Atlanta Symphony, and teaches theory, saxophone, improvisation and composition at UAlbany. "Ivey-Divey" (Blue Note Records), his 2004 debut recording on tenor saxophone, earned a Grammy nomination and received Album of the Year honors from *Jazz Times* magazine that same year.

Byron was one of just 189 honorees, from a field of 2,800 applicants, to receive a Guggenheim Fellowship this year.

Heikoff Publishes Poetry

Professor Emeritus of Public Administration and Policy Joseph M. Heikoff has published a new book. *Conversations with Myself* (Pure Heart Press) is a collection of poems that "came to me beginning in middle age seemingly out of nowhere." In the preface, he explains: "I had no preparation for this kind of writing. Because I was not confident enough to write for anyone else, I just wrote for myself." The poems include "Futility," "Blessings" and "Late Autumn."

Heikoff and his wife, Helen, support a number of UAlbany initiatives, including an endowment in their names that annually provides a \$2,000 scholarship to an outstanding public administration student, and a trust that will support the endowment.

On Top of the World

Joseph Fazioli and Christopher Keefe spent part of their spring break doing something unusual: They scaled the highest peak in the continental United States and raised money for a good cause at the same time.

Fazioli, a junior, and Keefe, a senior, each raised \$3,500 for the Summit for Someone Program, which benefits Big City Mountaineers (BCM), an organization that supports at-risk inner-city youth. They reached the summit of Mount Whitney, which towers nearly 15,000 feet above California's Death Valley, with seven other climbers and three guides.

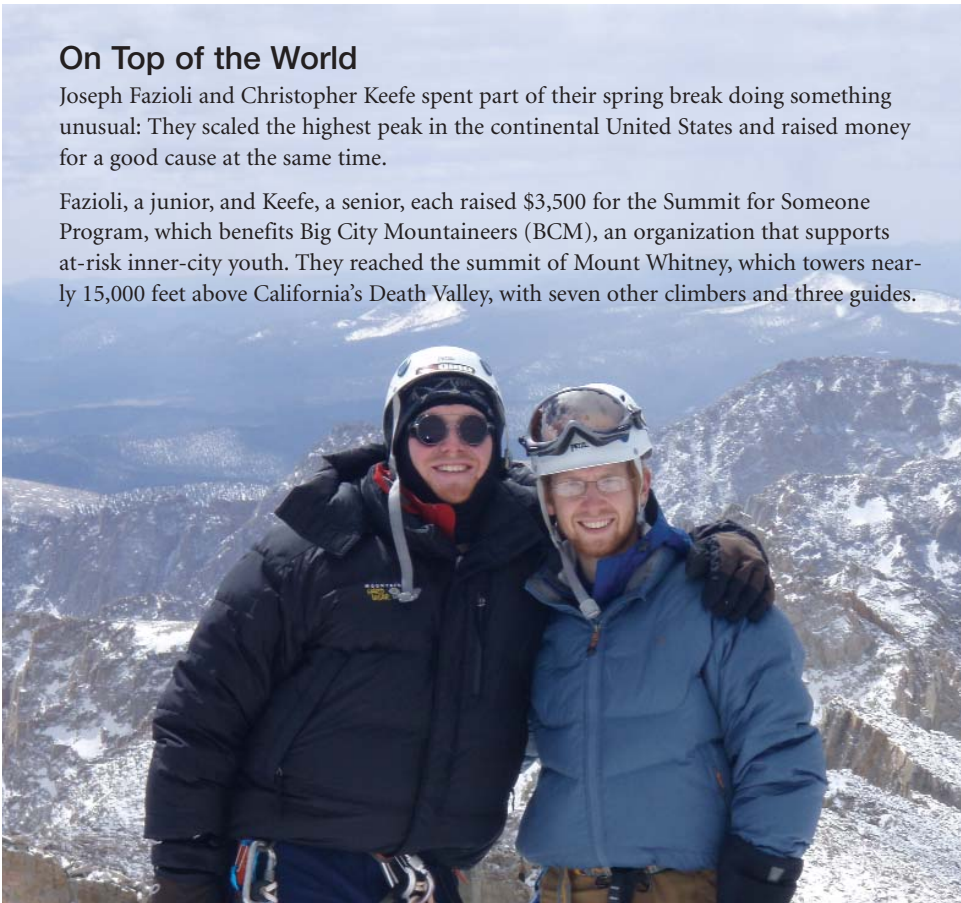


Photo submitted

Levy, Messner Are Named Collins Fellows

Daniel Levy and Steven Messner were honored as 2007 Collins Fellows at UAlbany's 163rd commencement last May.

Levy, a Distinguished Professor of Educational Administration and Policy Studies, joined the University faculty in 1981. He is also jointly appointed to the departments of Latin American, Caribbean and



U.S. Latino Studies; Political Science; and Public Policy and served for a year as interim director of the Center for Jewish Studies.

Messner, who came to UAlbany in 1982, is a Distinguished Teaching Professor of Sociology.

In addition to chairing the sociology department and numerous departmental committees, he has served on various University Senate councils and committees for more than 20 years. He chaired three University Senate councils and the entire Senate in 2005-06.



The Collins Fellowships, named for the University's ninth president, Evan Revere Collins, recognize teaching faculty who exemplify extraordinary devotion to UAlbany, institutional commitment and service. To date, 46 other faculty members have also been designated Collins Fellows; a list of the honorees is available online at <http://www.albany.edu/directory/collins.html>.

A 1962 photograph on page 20 of the Spring 2007 *UAlbany* identified the mayor of Albany as Erastus Corning III. He was Erastus Corning 2nd.

UAlbany

Magazine

Fall 2007, Volume 16, Number 3

UAlbany magazine is published three times a year for alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends of the University at Albany, State University of New York. Our objective in producing UAlbany is to provide lively, informative content that will stimulate pride and interest in our University.

Director of Development Operations
and Assistant to the Vice President
Cecilia Lauenstein

Editorial Staff

Executive Editor
Carol Olechowski
colechowski@uamail.albany.edu

Art Director/Designer
Mary Sciancalepore

Writers
Brian DePasquale; Christine Doyle, M.B.A.'04;
Cindi Schmalz, B.A.'07; Geoffrey Williams

Photographers
Colleen Brescia; Lorenzo Ciniglio; Bob Ewell;
Gary Gold, B.S.'70; Mark McCarty; Gina Muscato;
Mark Schmidt

Researchers
Daniel Doyle, B.A.'97, M.A.'04; Deborah Forand;
Agostino Futia, B.A.'01; Geoffrey Williams

Mailing and Distribution Coordinators
Diane Bouchard; Alan Topal, B.A.'83;
Kimberly Verhoff, B.A.'00

Business Manager
Lillian Lee

The Carillon

Editor
Melissa Samuels
msamuels@uamail.albany.edu

"Alumni News and Notes" Editor
Kathleen Gaddis
kgaddis@uamail.albany.edu

Art Director/Designer
Mary Sciancalepore

UAlbany magazine is available online at:
<http://www.albany.edu/news/index.shtml>

The University at Albany's broad mission of excellence in undergraduate and graduate education, research and public service engages more than 17,000 diverse students in 10 schools and colleges. For more information about this internationally ranked institution, please visit www.albany.edu.

Cover photos: Lorenzo Ciniglio and Gary Gold, B.S.'70

UAlbany, Moscow State Mark 30th Anniversary of Partnership

Before *glasnost*, before *perestroika*, there was the agreement between the University at Albany and Moscow State University (MSU) to promote faculty and student exchanges. Representatives of the two institutions gathered at UAlbany last May 15 to celebrate the pact, which was forged during the Cold War.

Over the years, UAlbany has hosted more than 300 faculty, graduate student and undergraduate exchange participants from MSU. Each semester, four to eight students – some from UAlbany; some from other institutions – travel to Moscow to study at MSU. Together, UAlbany and MSU's Faculty (School) of Foreign Languages operate a language program. There are also faculty links and joint research in business, computer science and mathematics. Rockefeller College Dean Jeffrey Straussman is renewing Moscow State's interest in the college, which hosted approximately a third of the MSU faculty exchange participants in the program's first 15 years.



Moscow State Rector Viktor Sadovnichy and Olga Zinovieva, manager of SUNY's Center on Russia and the United States, were among the guests celebrating Moscow State's longstanding partnership with UAlbany last spring.

iFelicidades!

Associate Professor of English and acclaimed novelist Edward Schwarzschild has added another credit to his list of achievements: Fulbright Teaching Fellow.

With support from the Fulbright Scholar program, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, Schwarzschild is spending the 2007-08 academic year in Spain. He will teach courses in contemporary literature and American writing and visual arts at the University of Zaragoza. Schwarzschild, who also holds a joint appointment with the New York State Writers Institute, is the author of the well-received novel *Responsible Men*. His second book, *The Family Diamond*, is being published this fall.

After 50 Years at UAlbany, Daly Retires

Associate Professor and Associate Chair of Chemistry Lawrence Daly, a 1952 New York State College for Teachers graduate who returned to his *alma mater* to teach, retired June 13.

Daly was hired at UAlbany in 1957, shortly after he earned a doctorate from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. For much of his career, he taught or advised nearly every student taking chemistry at the University, noted department chair John Welch. Daly was, Welch added, "a terrific colleague" who "always put the students and the department first."

In retirement, Daly will continue to indulge in one of his favorite pastimes, reading; he particularly enjoys history and mysteries. He also looks forward to putting his carpentry, plumbing and electrical skills to work at home.



Cook Receives Hollings Scholarship

Sophomore atmospheric science major David Cook has received a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Hollings Scholarship.

Cook, a Presidential Scholar who plans to research such severe weather events as tornadoes and tropical systems, also captured first place among undergraduates last spring in the WxChallenge, a national collegiate forecasting competition.

Chancellor Honors UAlbany Faculty and Staff

Nine UAlbany faculty and staff representing a variety of disciplines and departments were among the 235-plus recipients honored this summer with State University of New York Chancellor's Awards for Excellence.

The University at Albany honorees included Associate Professor Diane Dewar (School of Public Health); Professor Jeryl Mumpower (Public Administration and Policy); Monographic Cataloger Sharona Wachs (University Libraries); Student Support Services Coordinator Christopher Fernando (Academic Support Services); Personal Safety and Off-Campus Affairs Coordinator Thomas Gebhardt (University Police Department); Assistant to the Dean of Student Services JoAnne Malatesta (School of Criminal Justice); Associate Professor Lotfi Sayahi (Languages, Literatures and Cultures); Associate Professor Kevin J. Williams (Psychology); and Associate Professor Alissa Pollitz Worden (School of Criminal Justice).

Africana Studies Program Ranks Second

For a third straight year, UAlbany's master's program in Africana studies has maintained its No. 2 ranking among similar academic programs in the U.S., according to *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* magazine.

Temple University's program placed first in the top 10. Also included on the list were the graduate programs at Yale, Cornell, and Columbia.

The University at Albany is the only school in the State University of New York system to offer the master's in Africana studies.

University Welcomes New Administrators

A cancer researcher; a specialist in diversity, affirmative action and equity issues; and an expert on Eastern European and Jewish history recently joined the University staff.

Philip Nasca, who taught epidemiology at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and served as associate dean for research at its School of Nursing, became dean of UAlbany's School of Public Health in June. Known for his research in cancers of the breast and female reproductive organs and in childhood cancer, Nasca succeeds Mary Applegate, who served in the post on an interim basis after former dean Peter Levin retired in 2006.

Tamra Minor has been serving as assistant vice president and director of Diversity and Affirmative Action since August. Minor came to UAlbany from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, where she was associate vice chancellor for Institutional Diversity. Her previous experience includes various administrative posts with The Ohio State University, where she also earned advanced degrees, including a doctorate in consumer/family economics.

Olga Litvak, a former assistant professor of modern Jewish history at Princeton University, was appointed director of the Center for Jewish Studies effective Sept. 1, succeeding founding director Mark Raider and interim director Daniel Levy. Litvak, who is also a faculty member in UAlbany's Department of Judaic Studies, is working on several projects, including a study of the central role Jewish artists, critics, patrons and dealers played in the development of Russian art in the late 1800s and the early 1900s.

Stone Exhibit Opens

A permanent exhibit featuring the work of internationally renowned architect Edward Durell Stone, who designed UAlbany's uptown campus in the early 1960s, is now open at University Hall.

Hicks Stone, who was a boy when his father unveiled the architectural plan for the campus and is now himself an architect, was the guest of honor at the May 9 opening ceremony. The exhibit features framed photos of the uptown campus at various stages of construction, as well as pictures of some of Stone's many other architectural wonders, including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., and the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India.

Edward Durell Stone passed away in 1978.

