

Campus News and Notes

By CAROL OLECHOWSKI

John R. Ryan Is UAlbany's Interim President

The State University of New York Board of Trustees has named SUNY Maritime College's president, Vice Admiral John R. Ryan, USN (Ret.), as interim president of the University at Albany.

Ryan will lead UAlbany until a permanent successor to Karen R. Hitchcock is chosen. Having announced her intention last fall to resign as president effective June 30, Hitchcock went on leave January 30, citing an illness in her family.

SUNY Board Chairman Thomas F. Egan described as an "ideal choice" for UAlbany.

"His significant academic, philanthropic and fiscal achievements at our Maritime College, and at the Naval Academy, combined with his extensive experience and success leading and managing large complex organizations, make him an ideal choice to lead the University at Albany until a permanent president is chosen," Egan said.

Ryan will continue serving as president of the Maritime College, located at Fort Schuyler in New York City, and will not be a candidate for UAlbany's permanent position.



Photo: Mark Schmidt

Interim President John R. Ryan addresses the University community.

George M. Philip, chair of UAlbany's University Council, announced in February the selection of Korn/Ferry International as a search consultant and the formation of a Presidential Search Committee. The Council will submit its recommendations to the chancellor and the trustees.

Ryan said he viewed his role as "the bridge between two outstanding presidents."

"I am honored the Board of Trustees has selected me to play a part

in leading the campus during the search for a permanent leader," he said. "Working with the students, faculty and staff at the campus will be a great pleasure, and I am looking forward to the challenges that come with leading a large, dynamic institution such as the University at Albany."

Chancellor Robert L. King said that Ryan's "tremendous success increasing philanthropic support, coupled with his strong capital facilities and fiscal management skills, make him an excellent choice to lead the campus on an interim basis."

Ryan started his presidency of the Maritime College in June of 2002. Before that, he served as superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis from 1998 to 2002, overseeing a \$220 million annual budget and 7,000 faculty, staff and students. He received his master's degree in administration from George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and completed the Program for Senior Executives in National and International Security at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. He is a 1967 graduate of the Naval Academy.

The latest information about the presidential search is available at:
<http://www.albany.edu/presidentialsearch/>

Santiago Named President of University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Carlos Santiago, UAlbany's provost



Photo: Mark Schmidt

Carlos Santiago

and vice president for Academic Affairs, is heading to the Midwest to become the next chancellor of the University

of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The campus has 26,000 students and an operating budget of \$430 million.

Santiago, provost for the last three years, had also served briefly this spring as the "officer in charge" of UAlbany following the departure of former President Karen R. Hitchcock and prior to the appointment of John Ryan as interim president.

Santiago, who joined UAlbany in 1988, was associate provost and dean of graduate studies at UAlbany prior to being named provost. He earned his Ph.D. in economics from Cornell University.

"This is a testament to the many accomplishments and contributions Dr. Santiago has made during his more than 16 years at the University at Albany," Interim President John Ryan said. "From chair of the Department of Latin American and Caribbean Studies

to provost and vice president for academic affairs, he has helped lead the University through a period of tremendous success in research, academics and overall growth."

Santiago is the first Puerto Rican to head a research university in the United States, according to Wisconsin-Milwaukee officials. He is expected to begin his new job about July 15.

Giants Return to UAlbany

The New York Giants will be Big Men On Campus again for the next three summers.

The National Football League team, which has trained at UAlbany since 1996, has renewed its contract through 2006. Giants Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer John Mara said, "UAlbany has been a great summer home for us, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with the University for many years to come."

Team members will report to the uptown campus the last week of July, led by new head coach Tom Coughlin.



Photo: Gary Gold

The New York Giants at summer training camp at UAlbany.

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Lydia Davis



Jeryl Mumpower



Peter Bloniarz

Lydia Davis Wins MacArthur Prize

Acclaimed short story and fiction writer Lydia Davis may have won a prestigious \$500,000 MacArthur Fellowship last fall — but she's still down to earth enough to take the bus. Davis used her 90-minute Adirondack Trailways rides twice a week to Albany to good advantage, reading, relaxing, and "getting a lot of good work done" while scribbling storylines in a notebook. Once in the capital, the

Hudson Valley resident would take a city bus to UAlbany's uptown campus, where she taught a graduate fiction workshop and an undergraduate creative writing class last year.

The 56-year-old author of such works as *The End of the Story* and *Almost No Memory* first came to the University in 2000 as a guest of the New York State Writers Institute. She joined the faculty in 2002 as associate professor and writer in residence.

tant. . . I may also buy the multi-volume *Oxford English Dictionary*, if I can find a place to put it."

Mumpower, Bloniarz Assume New Posts

Jeryl L. Mumpower and Peter Bloniarz have accepted new positions at UAlbany.

Mumpower, a professor of public administration recently appointed interim vice president for Research, joined the UAlbany faculty in 1984. A fellow of the Society of Risk Analysis, he has served in numerous posts at UAlbany, including those of director of the Center for Policy Research and associate director of Rockefeller Institute of Government. Mumpower, who also holds joint appointments in the University's public health and information science programs, continues to serve as dean of Graduate Studies.

Bloniarz is the new dean of the School of Information Science and Policy. In his 25-plus years with UAlbany, he has served as interim director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, research director of the Center for Technology in Government, and director of UAlbany's information science Ph.D. program. Most recently, Bloniarz was interim vice president for Research.

State Author, Poet Named: Russell Banks, left, and Billy Collins are the new State Author and State Poet. They were

honored last March 4 at a reading sponsored by the New York State Writers Institute. Banks is a novelist, short story writer, and screenwriter and the author of such works as *Cloudsplitter*

(1998) and *Continental Drift* (1985), both of which were finalists for the Pulitzer Prize. Collins is a former U.S. Poet Laureate whose collections include *Nine Horses: Poems* (2002), *The Art of Drowning* (1995), and *Questions About Angels* (1991). The writers, who each received a \$10,000 honorarium, join an exclusive group of previous honorees that includes state authors Grace Paley, Norman Mailer and Kurt Vonnegut, and state poets Stanley Kunitz, Audrey Lorde and John Ashbery.

Photo: Mark Schmidt



Now on sabbatical, Davis plans to continue writing at her Port Ewen, N.Y., home. But she'll indulge a little. "I will be able to buy things like new file cabinets to replace the clunkers I have now, and I'll be able to go to France for a few weeks if I need to — and the book I want to work on will be set in France, so that will be impor-



New Administration Building:

UAlbany's new administration building is now rising on the north side of the Uptown Campus. The facility, which will house entry, admissions and administrative offices, is slated for completion in 2006. Over the past decade, the University has completed several new buildings on its campuses.



Champion Fund-Raisers:

Students in the UAlbany Fund Calling Program reached new milestones in phone pledges and gifts this year. The program's top fund-raiser is junior Christine Carino, right, who has raised \$165,815 since she began working at the Calling Center as a freshman. Others are (from left) senior Elizabeth Cahill, \$99,372; junior Ben Goodman, \$112,745; and senior Lisa Phillips, \$52,674. The Calling Program's 70 students expected to contact at least 65,000 alumni, parents and friends with a goal of raising \$900,000 by the end of the semester. The UAlbany Fund is part of the Campaign for the University at Albany. To contribute, call 1-800-577-7869 or go to www.albany.edu/giving.



Photo: Mark Schmidt

UAlbany in the News

More than 500 newspapers and print media and 250 broadcast outlets worldwide reported on a study about carcinogens in salmon by the School of Public Health's David Carpenter. Carpenter's study, published in January's *Science* magazine, concluded that concentrations of cancer-causing substances in farm-raised salmon are high enough that consumers should consider severely restricting their consumption. The coverage included stories in the *Los Angeles Times* and *Good Housekeeping* magazine, as well as BBC News and The Associated Press.

The Boston Globe featured a profile of John Kekes of the Philosophy Department. The Jan. 4 article, "The Examined Life: The Anti-Liberal," focused on Kekes and his latest book, *The Illusions of Egalitarianism*. In the question-and-answer article, Kekes said, "It is a dangerous mistake to privilege equality at the expense of everything else."

The Houston Chronicle recently featured quotes from William Danko of the School of Business in an article titled "Who Wants to be a Millionaire? People Who Live Cheap." The story focused on Karen and Joe Manzo, a middle-class couple from Paterson, N.J., who have followed the frugal prescriptions of one of their favorite books, *The Millionaire Next Door*, written by Danko and Thomas Stanley.

— Lisa James Goldsberry