

Campus | News and Notes

By Carol Olechowski

Photos by Mark Schmidt

Claudia Matthews Wins Stanley Fink Legislative Internship

Claudia Matthews, a senior from Brooklyn, is the recipient of the prestigious Stanley Fink Legislative Internship. Matthews, who spent the spring semester working in the office of New York State Assemblyman



Claudia Matthews

Joseph Lentol, is a dual major in political science and English. She has a 3.86 grade point average and is the recipient of numerous academic honors, including membership in Omicron Delta Kappa and the Presidential Honor Society, a Thurgood Marshall Internship, the Dean's List, and Spellman Academic Awards.

The internship, which is supported by the Bell-Atlantic Foundation, is named for the late Stanley Fink, former speaker of the New York State Assembly and a former senior executive with Bell-Atlantic.

After the Tsunami: UAlbany Faculty Help Survivors Cope

In the aftermath of the tsunami that devastated Southeast Asia, the world rushed money, food and other humanitarian aid to the region. Now, relief efforts are also addressing survivors' mental health needs, and UAlbany faculty members are assisting those efforts.

School of Social Welfare faculty member Eric Hardiman recently traveled to Jakarta to conduct a workshop aimed at providing Indonesian mental health professionals with background in trauma and traumatic stress, grief and loss, and the potential role of sport and physical activity.

Joining Hardiman in designing and delivering the intensive four-day program — The International Workshop on Addressing Trauma and Depression Through Sport — were Dawn Anderson-Butcher of Ohio

State University and Tom Martinek of the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. Their training materials included resources adapted from the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress and the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Support for travel and the workshop was provided by each school, in partnership with the Indonesian government.

The workshop was the idea of Hardiman's UAlbany colleague Hal Lawson, who notes that "there's a severe shortage in Indonesia of mental health professionals and social workers."

Lawson, a professor of social welfare, has experience and contacts in Indonesia.

Through the workshop, says Hardiman, "we emphasized the natural coping strategies and strengths that people and communities have." The four-day program, held in February, drew on the presenters' expertise in social work and sports.

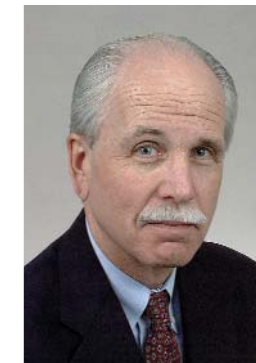
Hardiman, Martinek and Anderson-Butcher used a "train the trainers" approach to maximize the impact of the training throughout Indonesia. The 50 participants represented various universities and non-governmental organizations.

Paul Leonard Is School of Business Dean

Paul Leonard, B.S.'75, M.B.A.'76, has been appointed dean of the School of Business. Leonard, who completed his doctoral studies at the University of Oregon, joined UAlbany's Department of Finance faculty in 1979. He had served as interim dean for more than a year before his appointment last November.

Leonard and his wife, Kristine Leonard, B.A.'75, M.A.'76, met while attending Onondaga Community College in Syracuse.

Through a bequest, they are endowing a fund to support both need- and merit-based scholarships for community college students who transfer to UAlbany.



Paul Leonard



Albany College of Pharmacy • Albany Law School • Albany Medical College • The College of Saint Rose • Excelsior College • Empire State College • Graduate College of Union University • Hudson Valley Community College • Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute • The Sage Colleges • Schenectady County Community College • Siena College Skidmore College • SUNY Cobleskill • Union College • University at Albany, SUNY

New York's
Capital Region | College Region
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Celebrating the Capital-College Region

New York's Capital Region - College Region - You'll ♥ it here is the theme of a marketing campaign launched earlier this year by the Business-Higher Education Roundtable. The goal is to celebrate the area as a destination for young talent by highlighting the region's vibrant cluster of colleges and universities. Sixteen colleges, including UAlbany, are now introducing potential students to the area through a booklet

and ad. Tech Valley chambers of commerce are also getting the message out to employers. At a kick-off event earlier this year, various leaders pointed to the battle for talent at home and abroad as the context of the campaign.

Participating with UAlbany in the project are Albany College of Pharmacy, Albany Law School, Albany Medical College, The College of Saint Rose, Excelsior College, Empire State College, Graduate College of Union University,

Hudson Valley Community College, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, The Sage Colleges, Schenectady County Community College, Siena College, Skidmore College, SUNY-Cobleskill and Union College.

The Roundtable is an alliance of more than 30 business executives and college and university presidents collaborating to support the Capital Region's economic growth and quality of life.

Vincent O'Leary Recounts His Time As UAlbany's Leader

Vincent O'Leary's new memoir, *The Improbable President*, is University at Albany history from a front-row seat.

O'Leary, UAlbany's 14th president, guided the campus from 1977 to 1990 — when it was struggling to transform itself from a teachers' college to a major university center. The University was also wounded by the closing of several academic programs and faced deep budget cuts. Despite his book's title, O'Leary offers ample evidence that he was the perfect choice for the tumultuous times.

How he handled it all makes for an invaluable chapter in the University's 160-year history. O'Leary also allows us fascinating glimpses into his personal life, including how he contended with the lifelong, crippling effects of polio. What emerges is a self-deprecating portrait of a politically shrewd administrator who

relies on grit, grace and even

some occasional groveling to get through the toughest days.

O'Leary was a nationally recognized criminal justice figure when the University recruited him in 1968 for its new School of Criminal Justice. He embraced his role as a teacher and scholar, but was at first a reluctant acting dean when that job was thrust upon him. Later, he agreed even more reluctantly to serve as a caretaker president when Emmett Fields departed on short notice. After 12 months as an interim leader, however, O'Leary eagerly accepted the offer to stay as the University's permanent president. "I had discovered that being Mr. President was fun," he recounts.

Editor's note: Vincent O'Leary lives in retirement with his wife, Lihua, in his native San Francisco. The Improbable President may be purchased through Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com, or at the University bookstore. Royalties from purchases at the bookstore will support the inaugural Albany Symposium on Crime and Justice, scheduled for April 2005.

— Christine Hanson McKnight



Vincent O'Leary

UAlbany in the News

Albany NanoTech was featured in the February 4 issue of *Business Week* in an article titled "New York's Big Hopes for Nano," which focused on how the state is shaping up as a power in the emerging technology. Alain Kaloyeros, dean of the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering, was quoted.

For the January 16 edition of the *Baltimore Sun*, Ron McClamrock, a professor in the philosophy department, wrote an article titled "Horrors Such as Tsunami Tragedy Pose Difficult Questions for Faithful." In the article, he discussed how commentators have turned to philosophical considerations of how such events affect belief in God.

The January 9 edition of the *Chicago Tribune* featured comments from Rob Edelman of the UAlbany art department in an article titled "Coach Celluloid: The Teacher, the Motivator, the Father Figure." Edelman, author of *Great Baseball Films*, discussed America's affinity for coaches portrayed on the big screen.

Associated Press news outlets worldwide carried a new report by UAlbany's Center for Women in Government and Civil Society detailing the challenges faced by minorities in achieving top state appointments. The AP story ran in at least 57 newspapers or news Websites, including *Newsday*, the *Kansas City Star* and *The Guardian* in the United Kingdom.

— Lisa James Goldsberry

Keeping in Touch with E-Postcards

Move over, Instant Messaging and voicemail. Now there's a new way for University students, faculty, and staff to keep in touch with family and friends: UAlbany e-postcards.

Accessible at <http://www.ualbanye-postcards.com/>, the e-postcards feature photographs of the Academic Podium, Collins Circle, the Performing Arts Center, Draper Hall, Minerva, Albany NanoTech, Fountain Day, Homecoming, the Big Purple Growl, and other well-known University landmarks and events. With a click of the mouse, you can select a category, such as "Around

Campus," "Nostalgia," "Traditions," or "Go Great Danes!" then choose one of several images within that category. Spaces are provided for both the sender's and the recipient's names and E-mail addresses, as well as for a personal message.

People of Color Underrepresented As Leaders in State Government

The number of people of color in top-ranking, state government-appointed positions is disproportionately low compared to their numbers in the population, according to a study by

UAlbany's Center for Women in Government & Civil Society. While the 2000 Census showed that women and men of color constitute 32 percent of the population, in 2004 they held 16 percent of top-ranking executive positions appointed by the nation's governors, the report found.

The study counted only those states in which the key group totaled five or more percent of the population. It showed that African Americans held an equitable share of appointed policy leadership posts in

11 of the 29 states surveyed (Illinois; Indiana; Kansas; Kentucky; Massachusetts; Michigan; Missouri; Pennsylvania; Tennessee; Virginia; Wisconsin). In eight other states, African Americans held at least two-thirds of leadership posts to which they would be appointed if their share of policy leadership positions mirrored their representation in the population.

Across the nation, Latino appointees held the lowest share of executive positions at 4 percent, relative to their nearly 13 percent share of the U.S. population.

Five Quad Wins National Trauma Competition

UAlbany's Five Quad Volunteer Ambulance Service won the trauma competition and came in third overall during the 2005 National Collegiate EMS Foundation's competition in February. Some 580 representatives of campus EMS organizations from 73 schools across the U.S. attended the conference.

UAlbany's Five Quad competed in the national skills competition, which called for each team to respond to certain scenarios, including a trauma call, a medical call that was cardiac related, and a team building-rescue case. UAlbany's four-member team took home a first-place trophy for their outstanding performance in the trauma scenario and placed third overall.

Five Quad is staffed and organized by students, with some help from alumni and other former University students who volunteer 20 to 40 hours a week to answer some 600 calls during the academic year. The service is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week during the spring and fall academic semesters.



Katharine Briar-Lawson



Julio Aguirre-Ghiso

Briar-Lawson Leads National Group of Social Welfare Deans

School of Social Welfare Dean Katharine Briar-Lawson has been elected president of the National Association of Deans and Directors of Schools of Social Work (NADD). She is a national expert on family preservation, child and family policy, the world of work, and other social work issues. Since 2001, Briar-Lawson has co-chaired the NADD Gerontological Task Force, which is advancing Medicaid financing strategies for social work education in aging and is spearheading the development of a NADD Leadership Academy.

UAlbany's School of Social Welfare is ranked second in per capita scholarly productivity among the social work programs in the nation. The School's mission is to further social and economic justice and to serve those who are vulnerable, marginalized or oppressed.

UAlbany Researcher to Study Cancer Cells with NIH Grant

Julio Aguirre-Ghiso, an assistant professor at UAlbany's Gen*NY*Sis Center for Excellence in Cancer Genomics, has

been awarded a \$1.43 million grant from the National Institutes of Health.

Aguirre-Ghiso's research will explore ways to delay or prevent the growth of metastatic cells that kill half of cancer patients, sometimes months or even years after tumors have

been removed from their bodies. The grant will help fund study of a newly identified signaling mechanism and gene programs that are essential to maintain dormancy of metastatic cells.

Arthur Vining Davis Grant Supports High School English Teachers

High school English teachers will now have Web-based professional development materials at their fingertips, thanks to the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations' recent \$150,000 grant to the Center for English Learning and Achievement (CELA).

The funding will be used to adapt a multi-linked guide, currently in use by middle school English teachers, for teachers of high school English. Users have ready access to such topics as helping students to develop deeper understandings of what they read, and fostering reading, writing, and thinking skills through class discussions. Literary examples suitable for high school students, as well as samples of student work and teacher plans, will substitute for those in the middle school version, which was produced by CELA. CD video clips from high school classrooms will also be included.

Where there's a will, there's a way.

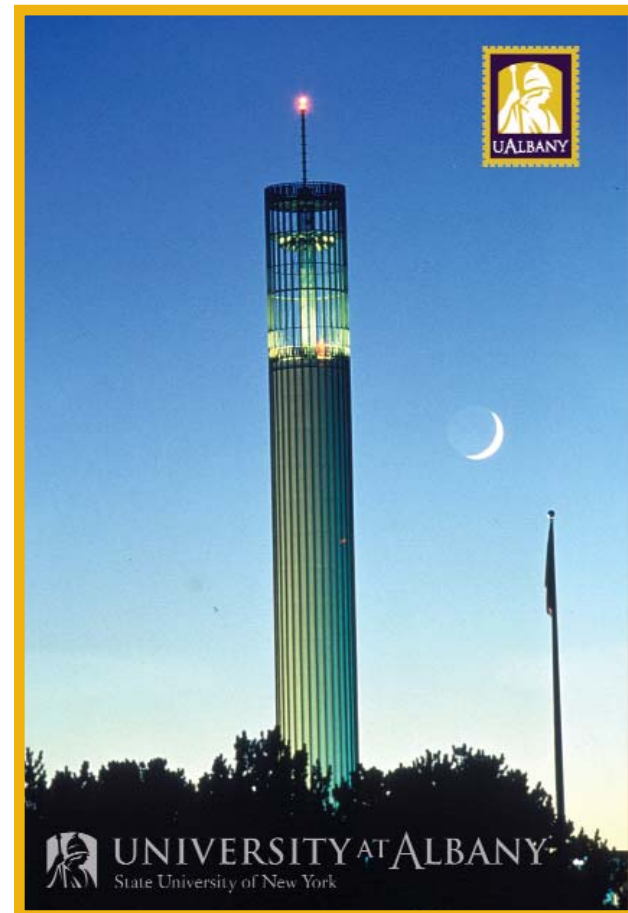
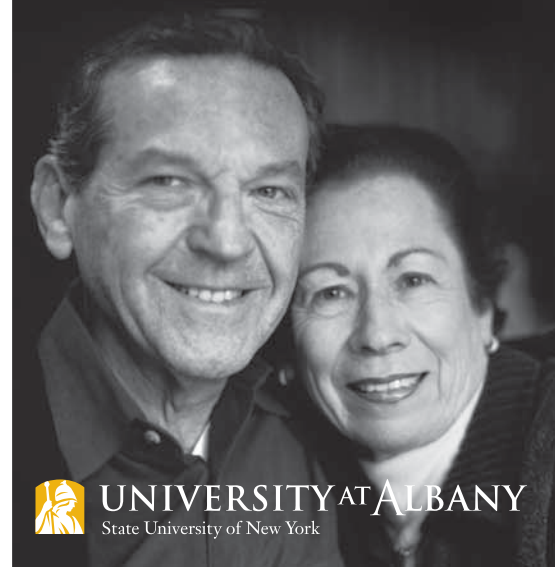
Or, even if there's not a will, there's a way. Making a planned gift to UAlbany ensures a quality education for future generations of students.

Planned gifts can reduce estate taxes, income taxes of your heirs, or capital gains taxes.

Find out how your gift can secure UAlbany's future.

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The carillon at dusk: an e-postcard image