NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM

The University at Albany has a new leadership team arriving on campus this fall.

SUSAN HERBST is the new provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the University. Prior to joining the University, she was dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Temple University and professor of political science. At Temple, Herbst was responsible for strategic planning, finances, student recruitment, fundraising, and alumni affairs of the college. Herbst also participated in university governance, serving on the Council of Deans and creating the university’s first Board of Visitors for the College of Liberal Arts.

JAMES A. ANDERSON begins as the new vice president for student success and vice provost for institutional assessment and diversity. Anderson, who most recently held the post of vice president and associate provost for institutional assessment and diversity at Texas A&M University, will lead efforts to build on student academic success and learning, create innovative approaches to student affairs, strengthen the University’s relationships with diverse people, and build community relations and outreach. Anderson served as the vice provost for undergraduate affairs at North Carolina State University, as well as on the psychology faculty at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Xavier University of New Orleans.

DEBORAH A. W. READ is the new vice president for development at the University. Before coming to UAlbany, Read was vice president for University Advancement at Northern Kentucky University. As the University’s chief development officer, Read works closely with alumni and the University at Albany Foundation to advance the fund-raising and awareness goals of the institution. At Northern Kentucky, Read was responsible for a successful $51 million comprehensive fund-raising campaign that concluded nine months ahead of schedule and $11 million over goal.

CHARLES R. WILLIAMS, formerly the senior manager for government affairs for MCI, is the new vice president for governmental affairs and public relations at the University. As the University’s chief government and public relations officer, Williams will be the architect of the University’s governmental relations and public relations programs. Williams also served as senior staff advisor for education to New York State Governor George Pataki from 1999 through 2004.

WAYNE A. LOCUST, formerly the vice chancellor for enrollment and university life at the State University of New York, is the new vice provost for enrollment management at the University. As the University’s chief enrollment and financial aid officer, Locust will manage and oversee all enrollment and financial assistance programs and scholarships. Locust’s career in university enrollment has been marked by many successful recruitment programs, including significant recruitment of out-of-state students and students from secondary markets, and campaigns for underrepresented populations.

ATHLETICS

Alumni Turf Field Opens. Vice President and Director of Athletics Lee McElroy announced the completion for game competition of Alumni Turf Field, which will serve as the home venue for the women’s field hockey team as well as provide a multi-use recreational facility for all university students. Groundbreaking for the field and the adjacent John Fallon Field, the future home for the UAlbany lacrosse men’s and women’s teams, took place in May 2005.
and president for a day, sophomore Zakhar Berkovich.

Development Deborah A.W. Read; University President School of Business. With him from left: Vice President for Development Deborah A.W. Read; University President Kermit L. Hall; School of Business Dean Paul A. Leonard; and president for a day, sophomore Zakhar Berkovich.

- Alumnus Gives Back. Rheingold Brewing chief and former partner in the South Beach Beverage Company (SoBe) Norman E. Snyder, Jr., ‘83 committed the largest gift from an individual in the University's history. The $5 million commitment to the School of Business to establish the Norman E. Snyder, Jr., ’83 Endowment Fund will be used for general support of the business school's goal to become the leading public business school in the Northeast.

- New Home for School of Business
The University unveiled plans for a new 80,000-square-foot Business School building. The $40-million project is designed to be student-focused, featuring technologically advanced classrooms and meeting spaces, wireless internet access, and facilities conducive to faculty and student interaction. Robert W. Lazar, New York Business Development Corporation (NYBDC) president and CEO, presented a check for $51,000 to the University at Albany’s School of Business in support of its plan for a new home.

- Nano+MBA Program. The College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) and School of Business announced the establishment of the first joint MBA/MS program combining business administration and nanoscale scientific and engineering concepts. The Nanotechnology Management Program, or Nano+MBA, will begin accepting students for enrollment in 2006.

- UAlbany and Ordway Partner to Enhance Region’s Research Profile. The University at Albany and the Ordway Research Institute announced a collaborative agreement that will enhance biotechnology and establish magnet research programs in the life sciences at both institutions and in Tech Valley.

- Counseling Center Reaches $3 Million Mark with Grant-Assisted Intervention Programs. The UAlbany Counseling Center has secured nearly $3 million in federal funds this year to promote educational programs and interventions to high-risk students. The Center announced the receipt of a $225,000 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant for youth suicide prevention programs.

- Inaugural Scholarship Fund
Established by President Kermit L. Hall when he took office, the Inaugural Scholarship Fund provides need-based undergraduate student scholarships. The fund was jump-started with $100,000 that the campus could have spent on a presidential inauguration. Instead, Hall is foregoing a formal inauguration and he and his wife, Phyllis, have personally pledged an additional $10,000 toward the fund. The goal is to build an endowed fund of at least $1 million.

As of today, gifts and pledges to the Inaugural Scholarship Fund total $481,455.

- Lu Shengzhong Exhibit. On September 29, the University Art Museum opened New Emerging From the Old, Lu Shengzhong: Works 1980 - 2005, the work of major Chinese contemporary artist Lu Shengzhong. The exhibit will run through November 13, 2005.

- Do the Spike Thing. Filmmaker Spike Lee spoke before the University community at two seminars. Lee was accompanied by Kaleem Aftab, author of Lee's biography in the new book: Spike Lee: That’s My Story and I’m Sticking To It (2005). Lee is credited with opening up the American film industry—to an unprecedented degree—to the contributions of black talent, including 1992’s Academy Award-nominated “Malcolm X.”

- UAlbany School of Social Welfare
Associate Professor Blanca M. Ramos has received the 2005 Hispanic Heritage Month Service and Leadership Award, presented annually by the New York State Department of Health. Ramos is the education core director for UAlbany’s Center for the Elimination of Minority Health Disparities (CEMHD) and past first vice president of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

Professor Carolyn Smith has received a four-year, $1 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to study family violence. Smith’s project, Long-Term Consequences of Exposure to Family Violence, aims to explore the connection between family violence, drug use, and other adverse effects such as intergenerational violence.

- School of Education Professors Study School Writing Instruction
Judith A. Langer, distinguished professor and director of the Center on English Learning & Achievement (CELA), and Arthur N. Applebee, a leading professor of educational theory and practice, received a $100,000 start-up grant from the College Board and the National Writing Project to study the accessibility of writing instruction at the middle and high school levels.