STUDENT Accomplishments

Clockwise, Inaugural Scholars Zakhar Berkovich, Jeffrey Castillo, Jessica Gunsch, and Sheila Gaddy.

Jeffrey Castillo, Zakhar (Zack) Berkovich, Jessica Gunsch, and Sheila Gaddy are the first students to receive Inaugural Scholarships. The four are University at Albany undergraduates who aspire to successful careers, want to leave a mark on the world, and plan to give back to the University. The scholarship fund recently topped $1.68 million.

Eric Christensen and President Kermit L. Hall.

- Eric Christensen, a senior political science major from Dundee, N.Y., and a transfer student from Corning Community College, shadowed President Kermit L. Hall on Jan. 31 as President for a Day.

- Four University at Albany students participated in the American Collegiate Moot Court Association (AMCA) national moot court tournament at the University of Texas, Arlington, Jan. 20-21. Alison Bain-Lucey and Matthew Laroche comprised one team, and Patrick Chamberlain and Matthew McLaren made up the other. Bain-Lucey and Laroche advanced to the final four of the tournament — in a competition that began with 71 teams — and earned “All American” status in addition to bringing home the semi-finalist trophy. In the semifinal round, Bain-Lucey and Laroche were defeated by the team from Patrick Henry College that advanced to the final and then won the national championship.

Governor Announces $435 Million Nanoelectronics Research Institute to be Located at Center of Excellence in Albany

Gov. George E. Pataki announced on Jan. 3 that a major new $435 million Institute for Nanoelectronics Discovery and Exploration (INDEX), one of only two to be created in the nation, will be located at the Center of Excellence in Nanoelectronics at the University. A similar institute will be located in the Silicon Valley in California.

Siena–UAlbany Connection Unites Business Students in CPA Quest

Siena’s undergraduate school of business and the University at Albany’s graduate school of business have developed an agreement to help students obtain a fifth year of accounting for Certified Public Accounting (CPA) licensure required under a 1998 amendment to New York’s Education Law.

Study Finds Little Progress for Women in State Leadership Positions

Women remain significantly underrepresented in state government leadership positions, according to a new study by the University’s Center for Women in Government and Civil Society. Women in State Policy Leadership, 1998 - 2005: An Analysis of Slow and Uneven Progress reports that between 1998 and 2005, the percentage of women in state government leadership positions increased from 23.1 percent to 24.7 percent. These positions include: statewide elected officials, state legislators, high court judges, department heads, and governor’s office top advisors.

Commonwealth Biotechnologies, Inc. and Center for Functional Genomics Form Alliance

Commonwealth Biotechnologies, Inc., and the University’s Center for Functional Genomics (CFG) have signed a strategic alliance agreement to co-market their respective services to the life sciences industry. The agreement provides for ready access to the combined capabilities of the two organizations and will enable better overall technology solutions to be developed for their clients.

Liberal Arts Education and the Hip-Hop Generation

Derrick Darby, Ph.D., a philosophy professor from Texas A&M University, spoke at the 27th annual Martin Luther King Jr./Black History Month Luncheon Feb. 9 in the Campus Center Ballroom on the topic of “Bridging the Gap: Philosophy, Politics, and the Hip-Hop Generation.” An online audiocast of Darby’s speech is available at http://www.albany.edu.

CAMPUS Highlights

The UAlbany men’s basketball team beat Boston University, 71-60, before a capacity crowd of 4,538 at the Recreation and Convocation Center during the Big Purple Growl Feb. 4. The Great Danes went on to clinch the America East regular-season title on Feb. 26 with a 76-61 victory over University of Maryland-Baltimore County. They are the top seed in the America East tournament this coming weekend.

(continued)
Board of Visitors Named
President Kermit L. Hall has announced that 23 distinguished leaders will serve on the University at Albany’s newly created Board of Visitors. The group will help the University test key assumptions being developed through compact planning against the broader framework of higher education. The group will make two visits this spring. The members are:

- STEPHEN R. PORTCH, chairman emeritus, University System of Georgia
- WALTER R. ALLEN, Allan Murray Carter professor of higher education and professor of sociology, Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, University of California, Los Angeles
- GRETCHEN BATAILLE, interim chancellor, North Carolina School of the Arts
- CHARLOTTE BUCHANAN, Esq., civic leader; founding chair, Albany-Tula Alliance; former chair of the State Commission on the Capital Region
- F. ALBERT COTTON, W.T. Doherty-Welch Foundation chair, Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M University
- TERRY DRISCOLL, director of athletics, College of William and Mary
- MILDRED GARCIA, president, Berkeley College
- WILLIAM GRAVES, senior vice president for Academic Strategy, SunGard Colleges Inc.
- KEMAL GURUZ, former president of the Council of Higher Education, Turkey
- GEORGE KENNEDY, senior managing partner, High Peaks Venture Fund
- JOHN L. KING, professor and dean, School of Information Science, University of Michigan
- DAVID P. LUNG, professor and head, Department of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong
- HERBERT A. LURIE, retired chairman, Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Financial Institutions Investment Banking Group
- JAMES E. MORLEY JR., president and CEO, National Association of College and University Business Officers
- SUZANNE ORTEGA, vice provost and dean, University of Washington Graduate School, Communications
- HARRIS PASTIDES, vice president for Research and Health Sciences, University of South Carolina
- ROGER PLATT, MD, assistant commissioner, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, New York City
- TRACY L. ROBINSON-WOOD, professor, counseling and applied educational psychology, Northeastern University
- STEPHEN J. ROTELLA, president and CEO, Washington Mutual
- RICHARD SISSON, provost and board of trustees professor of political science emeritus, The Ohio State University
- LARRY SUMNEY, president and CEO, The Semiconductor Research Corporation, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina
- THE HONORABLE RICHARD C. WESLEY, associate judge, U.S. Court of Appeals Second Circuit
- JOHN ZOGBY, president and CEO, Zogby International

Service Learning and Community Building in Spotlight
The University will highlight a successful service learning program and University-school partnership in a presentation at the Northeast Regional Campus Compact Conference April 7 in Nashua, N.H. The presentation will cover the collaborative journey of a University-school partnership, under way for more than five years, as it has fostered improved outcomes for impoverished children and their families, and enhanced service learning for University students. Presenters will include James Anderson, vice president for Student Success and vice provost for Institutional Assessment and Diversity, and Sandra Austin, assistant professor, School of Social Welfare.

Athletics

- Andy Allstadt won two individual titles and was named the Most Outstanding Track Performer of the Year as the UAlbany men captured the America East Conference indoor track championship on Feb. 18. The UAlbany women placed second behind Boston University.
- Women’s volleyball player Ashlee Reed and men’s soccer standout Stephan Hall lead a group of 57 Great Dane student-athletes who have been named to the 2005 America East Conference Fall Academic Honor Roll. Reed and Hall were also selected as America East Scholar-Athletes in their respective sports.

Faculty Honors
Jim Wyckoff, a professor of public administration, policy and economics at the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy, has been selected to serve on the advisory panel for a Congressionally commissioned study of the nature of teacher preparation programs across the country. The study will be conducted by the National Research Council (NRC). The panel will assess research on the ways in which teachers are prepared and advise policy makers on how to improve the process. The $1.5 million study was commissioned by Congress and is anticipated to last two and a half years. The goal is to find ways to uniformly improve teacher preparation and education across the nation.

Building Relations with China

President Kermit L. Hall surveys the future site of the International Education Center in “University City,” located just east of Nanjing. With him is an official from University City. Hall toured the site in January.

Staff Appointment
President Kermit L. Hall has announced the promotion of Susan Reich Supple as Senior Assistant to the President. Supple was Special Assistant to the President for presidential events and community relations for four years, and has been with the University for 20 years. In her new role, Supple serves as personal assistant to the president, oversees strategic scheduling and planning of events and other presidential activities, acts as liaison to internal and external constituencies, and works with Chief of Staff Vincent Delio to manage the business of the President’s Office.