

University at Albany

Neighbor, Partner, Ally



Pine Hills Neighborhood Association
December 5, 2005



An Urban Mission

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We are glad you are here.

**Each and every
one of us here
today has a vital
stake in the
vitality and
strength of our
Pine Hills
neighborhood.**



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Issues Updates for our Pine Hills Neighbors



- University's Urban Mission: How we are responding
- Safety and security initiatives
- Collaboration with City of Albany for neighborhood revitalization in the Midtown area
- Albany High School-UAlbany Alliance for Young Talent
- Strengthening Our Campus Environment
- Our Commitment



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Renewed Dedication to our Urban Mission

- We are committed to building new partnerships in the neighborhoods where we teach and learn.
- Leading that effort is James Anderson, our new **Vice President for Student Success**.
- He understands range of influences that affect student success, including the role of communities in students' lives and the role of students in the lives of their community.



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Renewed Dedication to our Urban Mission

- Fostering faculty and student engagement.
- Engaged in many ways in the community → **student service learning, community service** and **volunteerism**.
- **Refocusing efforts** to better benefit Pine Hills.
- **UPD Chief Frank Wiley** on Board of Directors of YMCA.
- Reconnected the University with **Campus Compact**, a national program that emphasizes civic responsibility.



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Focus on Safety

Criminal incidents are down on Alumni Quad and downtown academic campus.

Through November 30 of this year, we had 68 incidents, compared to 99 for the same period last year.

But the character of the incidents is a serious concern.

We are responding in many ways.



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Focus on Safety

- Mayor **Jerry Jennings**, College of St. Rose President **Mark Sullivan**, and UAlbany President **Kermit Hall** meet monthly to hone cooperative efforts.
- **University at Albany** and **City of Albany** police and **College of St. Rose** collaborated to develop five-point plan to improve safety in Pine Hills.



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Focus on Safety

Five-Point Plan

- 1) Apprehend and/or deter perpetrators through increased police and security presence in the affected area.**
- 2) Create real-time profiles of street crime through the daily sharing of crime information and related incidents. Enforcement efforts are shaped by this information.**
- 3) Take aggressive crime prevention measures in the neighborhoods
This includes crime prevention surveys and door-to-door interventions.**
- 4) Increase student awareness of crime and crime prevention through aggressive personal safety programming.**
- 5) Partner with the community to take active role in crime prevention through neighborhood watches and real-time reporting of incidents.**



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Focus on Safety

- Albany PD and NYS Troopers **increase presence** in Pine Hills.
- Beginning steps to re-establish **“Neighborhood Watch”** .
- University police **increase motorized and foot patrols** on Alumni Quad.
- Improved lighting and improved visibility by cutting back trees and shrubs.
- School of Criminal Justice seeking federal funding for pilot project that would apply **evidence-based problem solving** to these issues



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Revitalizing Albany's Midtown Neighborhood



- Collaboration with **City of Albany** and colleges for neighborhood revitalization in the Midtown area.
- Six academic partners → **investing \$50,000 each** → assisting full-time employees to purchase homes.
- The UAlbany Foundation has provided its first **\$5,000 assistance package** to a UAlbany employee.
- 13 new homeowners have taken advantage of the **homeownership programs** through the colleges or Citizens Bank.



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Albany H.S.- UAlbany Alliance for Young Talent

- Building on long-standing partnerships with the City School District.
- Together we will:
 - Develop young talent,
 - Increase college-bound focus of Albany High students,
 - Increase access to and enrollment at UAlbany,
 - Strengthen faculty collaborations and professional development, and
 - Improve quality of life through community service and student engagement.





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Albany H.S.-UAlbany Alliance for Young Talent

- Teach Out in October was the kickoff.





**UNIVERSITY
AT ALBANY**
State University of New York

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Albany H.S.-UAlbany Alliance for Young Talent

- All Albany High School freshmen will visit University in next six months.
- First 30 freshmen had their introduction to the college experience on December 2.
- Toured campus, lunch in residence hall, Q&A session with University students.



City School District of
Albany

Dr. Eva C. Joseph
Superintendent of Schools

Academy Park
Albany, New York 12207
(518) 462-7100

Rebuilding our schools. Reshaping education.



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Albany H.S.-UAlbany Alliance for Young Talent

- Other steps include:
 - **Planned expansion of Albany High School's Senior Career Exploration Program.**
 - A Forensic Science Shadow Pilot with the University's Northeast Regional Forensic Institute (NERFI).
 - Developing partnership with the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering.
- Also underway is GEAR-Up program – UAlbany students tutoring Albany Middle School students





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Being A Good Neighbor

- Committed to building **neighborhood relationships** and meeting with **neighborhood leaders**.
- 15-year-old Committee on University and Community Relations chaired by Tom Gebhardt.
- Off-campus Hotline – **442-5888** – to report problems directly to Tom.



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Being A Good Neighbor

- Night-time tour of **Pine Hills taverns** with the Mayor and President of College of St. Rose to see how **students and neighborhood residents experience the social scene** and related **issues**.
- **Pancake breakfast** for residents of four neighborhoods close to downtown campus.
- Improving the University with renovations of the downtown academic campus, addition of banners.





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Being A Good Neighbor

- Comprehensive campus efforts to combat and **prevent drug and alcohol abuse** by students
- **Judicial referrals for inappropriate behavior**: 14 students referred in 2004-2005
- **Late-night programming** to encourage students to stay on campus
- Looking at **fraternity and sorority issues**, exploring possibility of bringing them back on campus



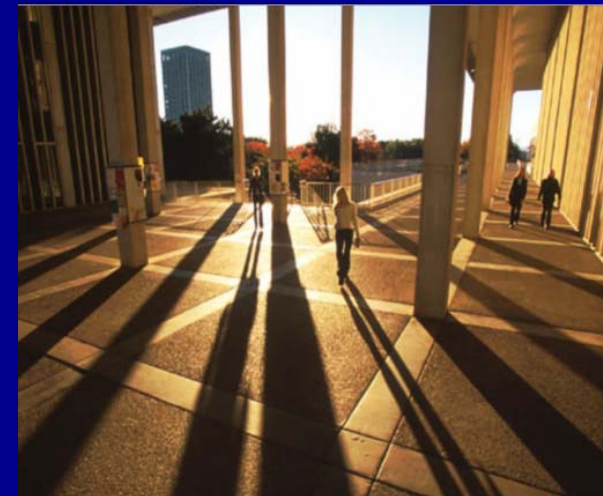
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Strengthening our Campus Environment



- Establishment of **Honors College** committed to excellence in undergraduate education.
- We are serious about raising the tide of the undergraduate experience that will lift every boat in our academic harbor.
- Vitality of campus environment enriched by wide array of campus events
- **Writers Institute** continues to bring the best of the literary world to Albany.
- You are all invited to enjoy the many events that are open to the public.





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Our Commitment

- Reciprocal partnerships.
- Dedication to **improvement of life in Pine Hills.**
- Informational **updates for all partners.**
- 2006 is the year of a **renewed campus/community partnership.**





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We are glad you are here.

We plan to move forward with you to make this neighborhood -- our neighborhood -- stronger.



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The Way Forward Together

Questions and Answers

Providing answers from the University at Albany:

Vice President for Student Success James Anderson

Vice President for Finance and Business Kathryn Lowery

Vice President for Governmental Affairs & Public Relations Charlie Williams

University Police Chief Frank Wiley

Assistant to the President for Strategic Initiatives Miriam Trementozzi

Director of Personal Safety and Off-Campus Affairs Tom Gebhardt