

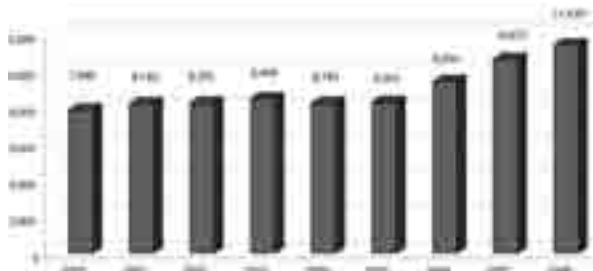


# Continuum

*A publication of Onondaga Community College, the OCC Foundation and the Alumni Council*

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3 • FALL 2008

## Fall 2008 Record Enrollment Continues



Fall 2008 enrollment is a projected estimate as of October 15, 2008.

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Continuum is published for Onondaga supporters, friends, alumni and the Central New York community.

Send inquiries to: Public Affairs, Onondaga Community College, 4585 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215 or call (315) 498-7252.



*Pictured: The College's three new residence halls (left background), the Whitney Applied Technology Center (center) and the Gordon Student Center (right foreground).*

## A Decade of Capital Investment

Many people coming to the Onondaga Community College campus, particularly those who have not returned for some time, are often surprised at the changes that have occurred. Nearly every building on the campus, largely constructed in the early 1970s, has been renovated to meet the needs of a 21st century college, and four new buildings, the Whitney Applied Technology Center and three residence halls, have been added.

Since 1998, Onondaga has been infused with \$50 million in investment for capital improvements. This has included the opening of the Whitney Applied Technology Center in 1999 which serves as home to many of the College's premiere technology programs, including Architectural

Technology, Electronic Media Communications, Computer Studies, Electrical Engineering Technology, and Automotive Technology. Whitney also houses the division of continuing and extended learning, largely responsible for meeting the needs of students and businesses beyond the traditional daytime, on-campus model.

In 2003, the College's five-year Facilities Master Plan continued the campus' focus on renovation and renewal. This included the opening of three residence halls in 2006, updating science labs in Ferrante Hall and the renovation of much of the Gordon Student Center, including the addition of a modern Dining Commons, Student Central and the Gordon Great Room.

With the vast majority of classrooms on campus, nearly all Onondaga students pass through Mawhinney Hall. Classrooms in this building are better equipped to provide a more optimal environment for teaching and learning,

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*Sophomore Kevin Qassemzad was one of several Architecture and Interior Design students who took part in creating an animation featuring proposals of the new Athletic Complex. To view the design go to [www.sunyocc.edu](http://www.sunyocc.edu) and click on news and events.*

For more information on the plan, including concept design animations of the athletics facility by Onondaga architectural technology students, visit [www.sunyocc.edu/president](http://www.sunyocc.edu/president) and click on "President's Initiatives."



## Message from the President

As communities across the state and country reel with the economic news of late, it is increasingly apparent that Onondaga Community College's efforts to improve efficiency and expand entrepreneurialism have

been strategically sound. One of the most efficient community colleges in the SUNY system as measured by net cost per student, the College is proud of the fact that Central New York students and families have benefited from the extraordinarily high value of its academic programs and services.

As public funding has eroded over the past decade, the College has embraced entrepreneurialism as a necessary step to preserve its unique mission of access for all regardless of financial situation. This entrepreneurial spirit has taken many forms, including strategic partnerships with business and industry, establishment of separate 501(c)(3) corporations to own and manage specific operations like residence halls, and aggressive fundraising.

With approximately 38,000 Onondaga alumni—the vast majority of whom live and work in Central New York—the College has a long history of contributing to local economic development. Our division of Continuing and Extended Learning is exclusively focused on serving students outside of the traditional daytime, on-campus model, including meeting the educational needs of the business community. These offerings include customized courses and programs, such as the National Higher Education Consortium with Anheuser-Busch, classes delivered to employees on-site at companies like Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield, and a degree program in Telecommunications Technology for Verizon employees.

The College's three suite-style residence halls opened in the fall of 2006, and the benefits of the residential program cannot be overstated. These \$19 million facilities were built by the OCC Housing Development Corporation at no cost to taxpayers; they are entirely self-supporting through student rental fees. This is consistent with the College's auxiliary services, including the College Bookstore, Dining Services, Children's Learning Center, vending services, and athletics program, which are also operated and managed by a separate 501(c)(3) corporation, the OCC Association.

With the support of numerous benefactors and private partners, on November 18, 2008 Onondaga Community College will publicly launch its first capital campaign since 1998 when the Whitney Applied Technology Center was constructed. The Whitney Center, which won an architectural award for its innovative design, opened in 1999 and was the first building to be constructed on campus since the 1970s. Like residence halls, the Whitney Center transformed the campus by merging its business, computer, and technology programs in a facility with state-of-the-art laboratories and equipment. The College's upcoming capital campaign seeks to continue the enduring legacy of student access and entrepreneurial spirit that is alive and well at Onondaga Community College.

Best regards,

Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D., President

## A Decade of Capital Investment

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benefiting from recent renovations to improve heating/cooling, sound-proofing and to infuse modern equipment for today's classroom.

Following an extensive process of establishing priorities, soliciting input and securing funding, the College has established the 2008-2013 Facilities Master Plan. The priorities of the plan are:

- Enhancing opportunities for student engagement
- Providing premiere facilities for premiere programs
- Preparing for continued growth
- Enhancing campus sustainability
- Expanding opportunities for community use

Highlights of the plan include the construction of an athletics field house and renovations to the nearly 40-year-old Health and Physical Education (HPE) building, home to a number of academic programs such as Onondaga's new degree program in Physical Education and Exercise Science. Adjacent to HPE, construction of an athletic field is nearing completion providing a home field for the first time in the College's history to our national championship men's lacrosse team and other athletic teams on campus and in the community.

Thus far, Onondaga has secured \$68.4 million in state appropriations toward implementation of the 2008-2013 Facilities Master Plan, including \$38 million for Phase I. Projects will also include final renovations to Mawhinney Hall and further renovations to science labs.

## Onondaga Trains Students to Become Poll Workers

Onondaga is one of 27 colleges nationwide to receive the 2008 Help America Vote College Program grant designed to get students interested in voting and working at the polls this election season. Freshman and sophomore students enrolled in five political science classes this fall are preparing to experience democracy in action and will serve as poll workers on Election Day in one of the most significant elections in this nation's history.

Through this program, the College will expand its existing relationship with the Onondaga County Board of Elections

(BOE) by helping to generate greater awareness among students about the need for poll workers; assisting the BOE in meeting its recruiting goals for the upcoming year; and building a strong foundation for the involvement of more students in the program in future years.

Onondaga professor of political science Nina Tamrowski is helping to lead the effort on campus. "A primary goal in getting these students to become poll workers is that the majority of them live in Onondaga County," says Tamrowski. "There



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## Onondaga Welcomes New Provost

In August, Cathleen C. McColgin, Ph.D., of Skaneateles, joined Onondaga Community College as provost and senior vice president. In her role, she supervises instructional services, student services, enrollment services, diversity services, and continuing and extended learning. In addition, she leads the faculty to achieve goals and objectives as set forth in the Academic Master Plan as well as the College's Strategic Plan.

"Dr. McColgin is a visionary, collaborative and proven leader who will guide and support the College's comprehensive educational programs," said Onondaga Community College President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D. "Her impressive academic and professional credentials demonstrate that she is wholly committed to bringing students, faculty and administration together to increase

student success. I am delighted to welcome her to Onondaga."

Dr. McColgin's prior experience includes serving for seven years as provost of Cayuga Community College's Fulton branch campus.

She holds a Ph.D. in higher education with an emphasis on teaching and administration from Syracuse University and she is a New York state registered nurse who served for 15 years as a captain in the United States Army Reserve at the 376th Combat Support Hospital.



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## Message From Board Chair David W. Murphy

The evolution of Onondaga Community College from a two-building, 500-student campus in downtown Syracuse in 1961, to a nine-building, 270-acre campus with more than 11,000 students

today, is nothing short of extraordinary. Over this last half century, there is no doubt that Onondaga has made remarkable strides.

As the 50th anniversary of the College approaches, the development of the new athletic complex is underway and will serve as yet another milestone in the history of this great institution. Athletics is an essential component of the total college experience. Onondaga's new arena and sports complex will provide vital athletic and recreation space needed for our exceptionally active Central New York community while simultaneously offering—for the first time—a home field and support facilities to showcase the athletic prowess of the nine stellar intercollegiate men's and women's sports teams, including the 2008 national champion men's tennis team and the 2006 and 2007 national champion men's lacrosse team.

As the community's college, the complex will also serve as a magnet to attract and inspire local area high schools, competing college teams, and other outside organizations to bring their business as well as large or small-scale events to the planned state-of-the-art facilities. I commend Dr. Sydow, the employees of Onondaga Community College, and my fellow Trustees who have long recognized a pressing need for renovated and improved athletic and recreation space for students and visitors alike to the Onondaga campus.

With Dr. Sydow's visionary leadership and the great efforts of faculty and staff, these last several years have seen unprecedented growth and transformation to meet the needs of local students. The addition of residence halls, a booming arts and culture program, and the affordability of quality education in uncertain economic times have led to record enrollment and a dynamic and energized campus. Indeed, students are indicating in strong numbers that Onondaga was their first choice right out of high school.

Resonating on the campus is a distinct blend of the time-honored tradition of high quality education with modern innovations to ensure the success of all students. It is, therefore, my pleasure to congratulate Dr. Sydow, who was recently named Regional CEO of the Year by the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) and is now in the running for the prestigious National CEO of the Year Award. Her demonstrated leadership is a true asset to this institution. A solid foundation is in place to ensure that Onondaga Community College thrives for the next 50 years thanks to strong leadership and highly talented and dedicated employees who are singularly committed to student success.

Sincerely,

David W. Murphy  
Chairman, OCC Board of Trustees

## Professor Nominated for Prestigious Book Award

Tim Willig, assistant professor of history, recently published a book, "Restoring the Chain of Friendship: British Policy and the Indians of the Great Lakes, 1783-1815," Lincoln & London, University of Nebraska Press, 2008. It has been nominated by the University of Nebraska Press for the Bancroft Prize, 2009. The Bancroft Prize is sponsored by Columbia University and, outside of the Pulitzer and National Book Award, is the most prestigious and coveted award for monographs in American history and diplomacy.



## Are You a Published Author?

*The College Bookstore Wants to Feature Your Work*

The College bookstore, managed by Barnes and Noble, is building a section for alumni authors and they want to feature your work. Bookstore manager Michele Collins will take care of all the details including making sure your book is in stock and displayed. She can also work with you to plan book signing events. For more information, call (315) 498-2246 or e-mail: sm611@bncollege.com. Please provide your name, contact information, the title of your book, publisher and the ISBN number on the back of your book.

## FACULTY AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

**David Abrams, D.M.A.**, Music, is the classical music reviewer for the Syracuse *Post-Standard*. His reviews of the Skaneateles Music Festival in August can be viewed at [http://blog.syracuse.com/critics/david\\_abrams](http://blog.syracuse.com/critics/david_abrams). He will review Syracuse Symphony Orchestra Classics Series concerts, Stained Glass concerts and the Syracuse Opera productions.

**Jennifer Bergamo, Kathy Cantone and Bridgette Jacobs**, Mathematics, will be presenting at the 34th annual Conference of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges this November. The presentation is titled, "Applications of Student Response Systems: Calculus and Statistics."

**Anne Novado Cappuccilli**, Art, participated in the Everson Biennial at the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse this summer. She also hosted a one-person show "Works from a Curious Observer" consisting of paintings and drawing at the Cedar Arts Center in Corning, NY.

**Candace Dance**, Mathematics, is presenting as part of a themed session on "Elections and Balloting" at the American Mathematics Association of Two-Year Colleges conference. Her session is titled, "That's Not Fair!" and is about the fairness of particular voting methods. Also, her biography will be included in the 2009 edition of "Who's Who in America," published by A.N. Marquis.

**Emily Fleisher**, Art, participated in the Everson Biennial at the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse this summer.

**Gabriel Gurley**, Technical Specialist, Art and Photography, received the OpenOffice.org Community Innovation Program Award for a series of instructional guides developed for OpenOffice.org 3.0. Schools in Indiana, Ontario Canada and Great Britain have already adopted his materials for instructional use.

**Linda Herbert**, Electronic Media Communications, held a screening of her new documentary "A Resonant Chord: Rodger Mack and the Creative Process" at Stone Quarry Hill Art Park in Cazenovia, NY. Music professor **Dr. Rob Bridge** is featured on her soundtrack and Art professor **Andrew Schuster** is one of the featured artists in the film.

**Deb Irwin**, English and Teaching Center, co-authored the fourth edition of "Reading Across the Curriculum."

**Wendy Carl Isome, JOBSplus!**, has been named president of the Junior League of Syracuse for the 2008-09 year.

**Bridgette Jacob**, Mathematics, traveled to Louisville, Kentucky to serve as a reader for the June, 2008 College Board AP Statistics Examination.

**Amy Kremenek**, Public Affairs, was elected to the Boards of the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra and the Onondaga Citizens League.

**Shannon Patrie**, Extended Learning, presented "Building Corporate and Community Partnerships" at the Association for Continuing Higher Education conference this fall. She also is a member of the Huntington Family Center Board of Directors.

**Katherine Perry**, Admission and Recruitment, served on a panel at SUNY College Night for a session called "Inside the Admissions Office." She also served on a panel at SUNY Brockport in a session called "Open Forum on Issues Impacting School Counselors and College Admissions."

**Tara Ross**, Social Sciences, participated in a live taping of the WCNY broadcast of "The Ivory Tower Half Hour," a weekly show that provides commentary on local, regional and national news and politics.

**Laurel Saiz**, English/Reading/Communication, will present "150 Years of Darwinian Thought: Exploring the Evolution Debate" at the 2009 National Convention of the Conference on College Composition and Communication. She is co-teaching the Honors concentration capstone course this spring with professor **Patrick Kenny** (Social Sciences) titled, "Darwin in Discourse: The Cultural Impact of the Theory of Evolution." Also, her review of the young adult novel, "Evolution, Me & Other Freaks of Nature," by Robin Brande will be published in the upcoming issue of *Reports of the National Center for Science Education*. In her role as an officer of the Syracuse Press Club, she served as a judge for two major Press Club award competitions: The Press Club of Cleveland's Excellence in Journalism and the Lonestar Awards of the Houston Press Club.

**Jane Stam**, Business Administration, published the second edition of her book, "Financial and Managerial Accounting Lecture Notes" that is used in four business courses that she teaches.

**Donna Stuccio**, Criminal Justice, earned a master of fine arts in creative writing from Goddard College in Plainfield, Vermont. Also, her short play, "Tesoro," was published in the Spring 2008 issue of the *Pitkin Review*.

**Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D.**, Onondaga Community College President, was recently named Regional CEO of the Year by the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT). She is now in the running for the prestigious National CEO of the Year.

**Harry Tuttle**, English/Reading/Communication, recently published book, "Dr. Tuttle's Formative Assessment: Responding to Students" is a practical approach to implementing formative assessments.

**Dawn White, MSW, LMSW**, Human Services and Teacher Education, has been awarded licensing as a Clinical Social Worker with "R" privileges in New York state. This is the highest level of licensing that the New York State Department of Education grants to masters level social workers.

**Eunice Williams**, Diversity Services, was recently appointed interim associate vice president for diversity services. She was presented with a 2008 Trustee Award in the Faculty category and the 2008 Ralph R. Whitney, Jr. Award.

**Karen Johns Zarzecki**, Photography, participated in the "Made in NY" exhibit at the Schwieffurth Museum in Auburn, NY.

**Floyd A. Moon '64** was appointed president of J.M. Murray Center, Inc., Cortland, NY by the Board of Directors. He previously served as vice president of administration and chief financial officer with the company.

**Diana L. Suskind '66** presented "Students Facilitating The RIE Approach to Foster Infants' Authentic Movement in Group Care," at the RIE (Resources for Infant Educators) Annual Conference in Los Angeles, California. She presented "Creating a Brighter Future for Young Children" in Nepal at the Church Center of the United Nations, and she presented "Children Growing Up With Respect in Nepal" at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) conference in Chicago. She was also the keynote presenter at the third annual Infant-Toddler Specialists of Indiana, in Bloomington, Indiana in 2007.

**J. Sehl Burns '67** was inducted into the Wall of Fame at Nottingham High School in Syracuse, NY, in recognition for his sincere dedication to the school. As a student, he was a member of the 1961 championship football team, has been the "Voice of the Bulldogs" at hockey, lacrosse and football games since 1991, was a key player in the plan to reopen Central Tech High School as a viable school to serve the students of the Syracuse City School District, was a founding member of the Nottingham Alumni Wall of Fame Committee, and is currently a substitute teacher at the school. When he's not volunteering or working at Nottingham, Sehl is busy running his landscaping and funeral business in Syracuse NY.

**Jan J. White '68** retired this year as assistant superintendent for the Canastota School District in Canastota, NY, and has plans to mentor new administrators in the year ahead.

**Thomas Woloszyn '69** moved from Syracuse in the mid-seventies to Nashville, TN where he worked for a private clinical lab for 15 years. Tom has also worked for SmithKline Beecham Clinical Labs, and when he resided in Florida, he worked as an administrative lab director in two hospitals and a physician group practice. Tom lives with his wife and son outside of Philadelphia and is employed by Quest Diagnostics as IT support manager/enterprise applications.

**Marcia R. Conrad '72** came to the Onondaga campus for a week in July to volunteer with the College for Kids program to gain insight on how to start a kids' architectural studies program for young students in Columbus, Ohio. Marcia is an architect at Moody-Nolan, Inc. and recently established the William S. Oliver Architectural Technology Scholarship at the College.

**Mark Bowen '73** is a supervisor with the United States Postal Service in Harrisburg, PA.

**Jane A. Rodgers '76** and pianist Kevin Bylsma premiered "Dialogue," a new chamber work for voice and piano by composer Burton Beerman, at the American Composers' Alliance American Music Festival at Symphony Space in New York City in June. Dr. Rodgers has performed in recent years in New York, London, Vienna, Prague, and around the Great Lakes region.

**Linda M. Haverlock '78** is a fitness instructor at Aspen Athletic Club and Fitness Center in Cicero and Liverpool, NY.

**Stephen R. Schill '78** was recently named to the Board of Directors of the OCC Foundation and is an active member of the OCC Scholarship Classic golf tournament committee. Steve is currently employed with Inficon, Inc. where he is thin film business line manager.

**Cheryl E. Kirsch '79** works at M&T Bank, Syracuse, NY, in the government bank department as a customer service representative. She has two children in college.

**Pamela E. Johnson** (attended from 1976-1982) is corporate vice president and chief financial officer at Community General Hospital in Syracuse, and was recently appointed as a member of the Onondaga Community College Association, Inc. Board of Directors.

**Christopher G. LaBarbera '83** is a freelance artist in television and film and a stage manager with the Directors Guild in Los Angeles, CA.

**Janet A. DeOrdio '84** is a civil engineer with the New York State Canal Corporation, a subsidiary of the New York State Thruway Authority, responsible for the oversight, administration and maintenance of the New York Canal System.

**Jeffrey D. Hall '86** is an investigator with the New York State Police.

**Daniel E. Brown '88** was employed by Otis Elevator for eleven years. He resides in Cadyville, NY and has worked as a service representative for Bay State Elevator for the past nine years.

**William D. Dussing '88** is a senior electrical project engineer with HMT Inc., in Cicero, NY. HMT is a leading provider of electrical testing, calibration, maintenance and repair service of industrial and commercial electrical equipment.

## ALUMNI PROFILE: Boise Thomas

Originally from Cortland, NY, Boise Thomas '90 is a champion of all things green. He practices what he preaches and he makes no bones about his love for the environment. He's the energetic co-host of an environmentally-focused lifestyle show called "Alter Eco" on Discovery Communications' new eco channel Planet Green. And although he's busy making a name for himself in Hollywood, when he reminisces about his time at Onondaga, it genuinely brings a tear to his eye.

"I really found my life here," said Boise. "This College is great – not just because it's affordable, and not just because it's convenient. It was the ideal place for me to begin my life as an adult. It's simply a great college."

Boise (formerly known as Thomas Boise while he attended Onondaga) was an intern at WSYR radio and later worked at a local television station. When he graduated from the Electronic Media Communications (EMC) program in 1990, he transferred to Syracuse University, but never graduated. Driven by his passion, he decided to move to Colorado where he got a job at a local radio station using all of the skills he learned from Professor Tony Vadala and others in EMC. He earned accolades in that market and took his skills on yet another adventure – driving foreign tourists around some of America's most famous landmarks.

After a brief time in Europe and India, he realized he had to connect his two passions: his love of radio and television and his love of working with people. He decided he wanted to be on the other side of the camera. He decided to become an actor. The west coast was calling. And so, after moving to California and after 54 auditions, he landed his first national commercial. Since then, he's been in 71



**Boise Thomas '90 (left)** is the co-host of the show *Alter Eco*, an environmentally-focused lifestyle show on Discovery Communications' new eco channel Planet Green. A 1990 graduate of the Electronic Media Communications (EMC) program, Boise recently returned to campus to meet up with EMC Professor **Tony Vadala '83 (right)** whom he credits with much of his success.

national commercials and even took time to teach more than 4,000 students how to book commercials – online.

His goal? "I want to be the "green" Oprah Winfrey," says Thomas. He did some online video work with 'giving.tv' which led to his current job co-hosting "Alter Eco" on Planet Green.

Although Boise and his wife, Sarasai, live in Southern California, they are building an eco-oasis in Kansas that they hope to use as a tool to teach others about the importance of sustainability. Boise's personal philosophy is that each one of us must make a choice everyday to make a positive difference. And he's living proof that the right choices can make all the difference in the world.

Check out Onondaga alumnus Boise Thomas on the Discovery Channel's new Planet Green channel at <http://planetgreen.discovery.com/>.

## New Partnership with SUNY ESF

### Programs and Scholarship Benefit Transfer Students

At a formal ceremony on Tuesday, September 30, Onondaga Community College President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D., and Cornelius B. Murphy, Jr., Ph.D., President of SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF), signed an agreement announcing two new transfer programs and a new scholarship program to benefit students transferring from Onondaga to SUNY ESF.

The two institutions have long had transfer agreements, but the partnership has been expanded to include students in the Architectural Technology and Environmental Technology degree programs. Graduates of each of these programs, who meet the requirements and achieve a grade point average of 2.5 or higher, will be guaranteed admission to a comparable program at SUNY ESF. Robert C. French,



**OCC President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D. and Cornelius B. Murphy Jr., Ph.D., President of SUNY ESF** sign an agreement announcing two new transfer programs and a new scholarship to benefit Onondaga students transferring to SUNY ESF.

vice president for enrollment management and marketing at SUNY ESF said only 41 percent of transfer applicants were admitted this fall. Guaranteeing admission to qualifying Onondaga graduates will give those students an advantage over other transfer applicants.

*continued on page 11*

# Newest Inductees to Athletic Hall of Fame

*Onondaga alumni and coach inducted into the Hall of Fame at this summer's banquet*

At the Athletics Hall of Fame banquet and reception held this summer, three Onondaga alumni and men's tennis coach John LaRose were inducted into the College's Athletics Hall of Fame. Men's baseball great Dave Rustay '85; women's volleyball and softball powerhouse Sandy Donahue '85; basketball superstar Julius "Tyrone" Albright '02; and head coach of the National Champions men's tennis team John LaRose each received top honors at the popular annual event hosted by Onondaga's Director of Athletics Robert McKenney.



*Onondaga Community College President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D., and Onondaga Trustee Donald M. Mawhinney Jr., Esq (center) congratulate Men's Tennis Coach John LaRose (right) on his induction into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame.*



## **Dave Rustay '85 Men's Baseball, second base and captain, 1984-85**

- First Baseball All Region and All American and the only First Team All American in the College's history
- Region III Champions 1984 and 1985
- Tied record for most homeruns in a single season (7)
- Holds record for most runs scored, most walks and highest on-base percentage in a single season
- Holds record for most stolen bases in a game (5)
- Originally signed for a full scholarship to the University of Miami. Received a Division II Scholarship to Florida Southern College

## **Sandy Donahue '85 Women's Volleyball and Women's Softball, Captain, 1984-85**

- Women's Volleyball: All Region First Team – 1985
- First Volleyball All Region and All American in the College's history
- Region III and Northeast District Champions 1985 – first in the history of the program
- National tournament in 1985 finished ranked 11th nationally
- Women's Softball: First base and shortstop; Team captain in 1985
- All Region First Team and Region III Champion, 1985
- Led NJCAA in RBIs in 1985
- Earned Full Division II Scholarship for Volleyball and Softball to Winthrop College in 1986
- Inducted into U.S. Softball Association Hall of Fame earlier this year



## **John LaRose – Coach of Men's Tennis**

- Head Coach of Men's Tennis team for 21 years
- Former teacher and coach at Onondaga Central Schools (1965 – 1998)
- 398 total career wins
- 13 national championship appearances – placed nationally every year since 1995
- Inducted into NJCAA Tennis Coaches Hall of Fame, 2007
- Unscored upon and undefeated Regional Champion, 2008
- Won National Championship and named National Championship Tournament Coach of the Year, 2008



## **Julius Tyrone Albright '02 Men's Basketball**

- Played point guard and was co-captain in 2001 and 2002
- Holds record for most single season assists per game (1st in the country)
- Holds records for most career assists per game, single season assists, and career steals
- Graduated with honors with a 3.25 grade point average
- Full academic scholarship to Syracuse University, 2002
- Member of S.U. NCAA Division I National Champions team, 2003
- Chosen as a 2008 Onondaga Alumni Faces Honoree

*The 2007-08 Women's Basketball and Men's Tennis teams were each named NJCAA Spring Academic Teams of the Year*

## **Onondaga Athletics – Go Lazars!**

*Five Academic All-American Student-Athletes\**

**Men's Baseball: Eric Detota**

**Men's Basketball: Shane Williams**

**Women's Basketball: Amy Twentyman**

**Women's Softball: Megan Blauvelt**

**Women's Tennis: Ashley Leclair**

*\*Academic All-American is defined as student-athletes who maintain a grade point average between 3.6 - 3.79.*

# Alumni NewsNotes

**Theodora Cannellos '90** received several awards for her work at Xerox Corporation in Reno, Nevada including: Staff Award of the Quarter 2003, Zero Absence Award, Par Club Winner for 1992 and 1993, Employee Satisfaction Award 1992, and Rookie of the Year award in 1991. She now works for the Sierra Nevada Job Corps in Nevada as a human resources specialist. She received the Staff of the Year Award in 2005 and was the Innovations Winner in 2004.

**Boise E. Thomas '90** visited campus in August where he shared his experiences since leaving Onondaga with EMC Program chair Tony Vadala and others who welcomed his visit. Boise, known as Thomas Boise while at Onondaga as a Radio Television program major, is part of the Green Team on Alter Eco, an eco lifestyle and makeover series featuring Adrian Grenier and his team of green activists, experts, and friends on the Discovery Channel's Green Planet. The show's 13 episodes feature food and garden tips shown in the context of creating great meals and beautiful landscaping and to inspire creative and hip ways for the world to make the "green shift." Prior to Alter Eco, Boise was employed by WSYR Television, Adidas, Adventure Tours, and KSPN Radio in Colorado where he was named best DJ in the region.

**Suzanne D. Butler '91** recently moved to Chicago and accepted the role of senior director at the event marketing agency GMR Marketing. Suzanne held previous positions in marketing at Delta Airlines and The Home Depot in Atlanta, GA after earning a masters in business administration from Syracuse University in 2001.

**John A. Granato '92** is owner of Master Designs, Inc., Syracuse NY and won first place in the 2007 National Kitchen and Bath Association-Central New York Chapter Design Competition for work he did in a remodeled home in Camillus, NY.

**Pamela M. Heilmann '92** is a distillery manager for James B. Beam Distilling Co. in Clermont, KY.

**Casey K. Gilbert '93** is a professional firefighter for the City of Rochester, NY.

**Maureen N. Erickson '95** began work as director of institutional assessment for Worcester State College in Worcester, Massachusetts, in January.

**Niles F. Bell '97** retired from Chrysler Corporation after a distinguished 32-year career and currently works part-time as a driver for the Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities in Syracuse.

**Jenni R. Gratien '98** earned a bachelor's degree in public justice in 2000 from SUNY Oswego, and is scheduled to complete her master of science in education in adolescent social studies from there in December, 2008.

**Beverly A. DeLorenzo '00** was promoted to executive secretary at Central New York Developmental Disabilities Service Office in Syracuse. She continues to take classes in elementary education at SUNY Oswego where she earned dean's list honors. She did her practicum at Delaware Elementary School in Syracuse, an experience she found to be very rewarding.

**Elizabeth A. Hertig '02** is currently attending the Crouse Irving School of Nursing in Syracuse.

**Natalie S. Fernandes '06** recently studied abroad in Cairo, Egypt at the American University at Cairo through SUNY Cortland's Study Abroad Program. She earned a bachelor's degree in anthropology with a minor in Asian and Middle Eastern studies and a concentration in world archaeology from SUNY Cortland earlier this year. She also did volunteer work for Habitat for Humanity International's Global Village Youth Program in Guatemala and was thrilled to have a chance to return to Onondaga this summer to see her tennis coach, John LaRose, honored at the Onondaga Athletic Banquet and Hall of Fame dinner.

**Nathaniel D. Schloss '08** is attending St. Joseph's School of Nursing, Syracuse. He was an active member of the content tutoring team while at Onondaga and also served as a phonathon assistant for several years where he made hundreds of contacts with Onondaga alumni.

**Thomas G. Sleeth '08** is attending LeMoyné College this fall where he is studying to become an English literature teacher and writer.

We'd love to know what you've been doing since leaving Onondaga. To have your news shared in a future NewsNotes column, go to [sunyocc.edu](http://sunyocc.edu) and follow the alumni links or call Alumni Coordinator, Anita Murphy at (315) 498-6058.

# Jazz Fest Weekend Events

The 26th annual JGB Syracuse Jazz Festival was held the weekend of June 27 and 28 and transformed the Onondaga campus into a weekend of outstanding jazz performances, wonderful receptions and special events. The Festival's theme of "Worldwide Rhythms and Global Grooves" beckoned to campus the talented Brazilian jazz legend Sergio Mendes and Brasil 2008, and 10-time Grammy winner and rhythm and blues diva Chaka Khan.

Events included a special donors' event and the annual President's reception, both of which welcomed large crowds of friends of the College, alumni, corporate and community leaders. The Gordon Student Center Great Room was transformed into a tropical paradise complete with lighted palm trees and a giant pink flamingo to welcome guests for a summer evening of fun and entertainment.

The annual Onondaga retirees' luncheon brought long time and dedicated Onondaga employees back to campus to catch a glimpse of the recent changes transforming the College as well as the opportunity to visit with former co-workers and reminisce about special times at Onondaga.



*Onondaga Community College President Dr. Debbie L. Sydow shares a laugh with OCC Foundation Chair Allen J. Naples and his wife Betsy.*



*New OCC Foundation Board member and OCC alumnus Steve Schill '78 (second from right) with his family at the President's reception during JGB Jazz Fest. From left to right: Daughter Susie (Onondaga music student), wife Kathleen (Class of '81 and '03) and son Robert.*



*President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D. speaking with Russ and Joan King of King and King Architects, the oldest architectural firm in New York state.*



*West Genesee student Julia Calagiovanni, daughter of Richard '68 and Alicia Calagiovanni poses with a large pink flamingo at the President's reception during JGB Jazz Fest.*



## The Retirees' Luncheon



*From left to right: Retirees Mary Jane Thousand with Richard and Gertrude Kieffer.*



*Onondaga Community College President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D. (second from left), with husband Harry Sydow (left) spend time with Onondaga retiree Tamma Goldner and husband Jack at the retiree luncheon.*



*Retirees Wendall and Shirley Jaquith being whisked off to seating for the JGB Jazz Fest concerts.*



*Ava Shapero Raphael (center) and her husband Dr. Irving Raphael accept the OCC Board of Trustees Exemplary Service Award bestowed upon to her late father, and the Onondaha Board of Trustees the Honorable Ephraim Shapero. The award was presented by OCC President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D.*

## Ephraim Shapero Honored by College

At the June 2, 2008 meeting, the Onondaga Community College Board of Trustees approved a resolution bestowing the prestigious "Exemplary Service Award" to former Onondaga County Legislature Chairman Ephraim Shapero. The resolution and award recognize "individuals who have demonstrated exemplary service by contributing to the development, promotion, progress and/or excellence of Onondaga Community College." While Chairman of the County Legislature from 1968 to 1975, Shapero's leadership was most valuable in the development of Onondaga County's community college. Ephraim Shapero passed away June 6, shortly after the award was announced. Onondaga President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D., recently presented the award to his daughter, Ava Raphael and husband, Dr. Irving Raphael, of Manlius.



## RAISES \$35,000+

For the most part, the weather cooperated for the 17th annual OCC Scholarship Classic at the Skaneateles Golf and Country Club. From talented bagpiper Paul Sheedy '81 setting the stage to start the tournament in its traditional fashion, to the morning and afternoon flights with the breathtaking backdrop of Skaneateles Lake, to the outstanding silent auction items and delicious dinner stations, this year's tournament was a tremendous success. The OCC Alumni Council and the OCC Foundation would like to express sincere appreciation to the many sponsors, donors, golfers, volunteers and members of the Scholarship Classic Committee for helping to raise more than \$35,000 for scholarships for Onondaga students.

On behalf of the College and the Classic Planning Committee, Tournament Director John Bonura '68, an Onondaga alumnus and professor of math/science, offers sincere thanks to this year's major sponsors:

M&T Bank  
Presenting Sponsor

McLaughlin-Kehoe Associates  
Dinner Sponsor

Syracuse Office Environments  
Beverage Sponsor

Inficon  
Titanium Sponsor

MVP Health Care  
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Citizens Bank  
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C&S Companies, Inc.  
Cart Sponsor



***Congratulations to the First Place team and winners of the 2008 OCC Alumni Scholarship Classic (Above L-R: Bill Brod, Chris Peters, Mike Fay and Jim Lynch of C&S Companies - Que Center.)***

***The team actually tied with Second Place winners, the Clear Channel Communications team (right) and final determination was made by a birdie on the first hole.***



***Andy Breuer, Project Manager at Hueber Breuer Construction Company, is ready for a great round of golf at the 2008 OCC Alumni Classic at the Skaneateles Country Club.***

***OCC employee Ken Roberts, Campus Facilities, is very satisfied with an impressive shot he made at the 2008 Golf Classic!***

## Congratulations to all of the Scholarship Classic 2008 Contest Winners!

### First Place (Score of 61)

Bill Brod, Chris Peters,  
Jim Lynch, Mike Fay

*C&S Companies - Que Center*

### Second Place (Score of 61)

Jim Reith, Jim Lerch,  
Perry Noun, Bill Ali

*Clear Channel Communications*

*(tiebreaker determined by birdie made on 1st hole)*

### Third Place (Score of 63)

Mike Peters,  
Wayne Cunningham,  
Mike Hogan, Keith Lindstrom

*McLaughlin-Kehoe Insurance*

## Gifford Scholarship Helps Students in Need

Beginning this fall, there is a new funding source for economically disadvantaged students. With a generous gift from the Rosamond Gifford Charitable Corporation, the College was able to provide 20 new students with a \$500 per semester scholarship above and beyond their estimated financial aid to get them on the right track from the start. Additionally, the College has a new Gifford "Jump Start Fund" to assist currently enrolled students who may be struggling to maintain their enrollment due to emergency financial needs or unexpected circumstances.

"The generosity of the Rosamond Gifford Charitable Fund illustrates the growing trend of creating community partnerships to assist our students most in need of financial support to better their lives through education," said Kris Duffy, associate vice president of enrollment services. "We are grateful for this support and are excited to continue to provide assistance to the students in our community."



## Vets Office Provides a Lifeline for Students

The Office of Veterans' Affairs at Onondaga provides student-veterans with the assistance they need to take full advantage of the available educational benefits. But more than that, the staff provides a valuable social outlet; a place where male and female veterans can share their stories with others who have similar life experiences.

Paul Holzwarth has been working in the Office of Veterans' Affairs for the past 20 years. A combat veteran himself, his quiet demeanor and warmth make students feel instantly comfortable in his presence. And for student-veterans who are trying to transition from military life back into civilian life, that's a priceless gift.

"The Vets office is an overwhelmingly supportive environment," says John Stewart, of Marcellus, a veteran who served four years in combat operations in the Middle



East. "Paul helped me more than he probably knows. I'd come in to the office and be upset about different things that happened that I just couldn't understand. I would talk to Paul and he would help me work through it."

Stewart is a Humanities major who plans to transfer to Syracuse University to study international relations. He spent four years in combat operations in the Middle East and says the educational benefits now available to veterans (free tuition at all SUNY colleges and universities) are long overdue.

Stewart joined the military shortly after September 11, 2001. He was only two years out of high school and says,

"I was working full-time at a grocery store. College definitely wasn't for me at that time." Soon after he was discharged from the military, he enrolled at Onondaga. His goal is to become proficient

in Arabic. "I already have a very basic knowledge of the language," he says. Stewart says he derived a great amount of satisfaction from his service to his country. With the completion of his degree, he looks forward to continuing those good works in his community.

**"The Office of Veterans' Affairs is absolutely critical to successful reintegration into civilian life from military life."**

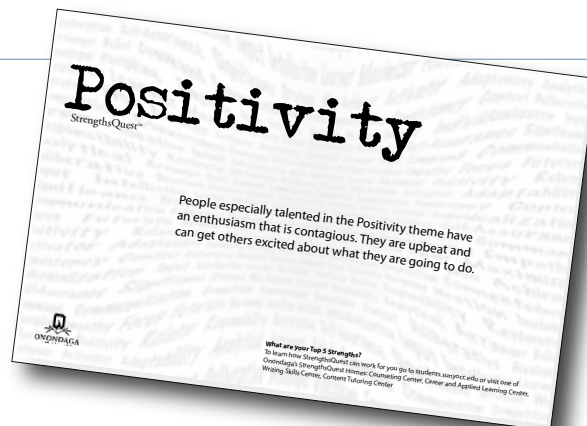
*– John Stewart, '08, combat veteran, humanities major.*

## New Initiative Focuses on Building Students' Strengths

StrengthsQuest is a new campus initiative that enables students to discover and develop their strengths. Created by the Gallup Organization, StrengthsQuest has reached more than 200,000 students on more than 400 campuses nationwide. For the last two years, Onondaga has been investigating ways to implement StrengthsQuest on the campus to give students another tool for success.

Human services and teacher education professor Tina May, MS, LMSW, CAS, sees great value in this initiative. "I see the integration of StrengthsQuest on this campus as an incredible enhancement for enrollment and retention," says May. "From the very beginning, I knew I had to be involved in this project. The concept of empowering students to identify their strengths – rather than focus solely on their weaknesses – and then to build upon those strengths seemed to me the most obvious necessary activity I could possibly be involved in."

What do students think about StrengthsQuest? According to May, "Their eyes light up!" She explains that so often, through the learning years students' weaknesses are emphasized and their strengths are often ignored. By reversing this way of thinking, she finds that students develop greater confidence and are better able to articulate and further develop their unique individual strengths quite naturally.



May has successfully infused StrengthsQuest into many of her classes including her field placement classes in human services. "By teaching students how to focus on the strengths of people in a social worker's environment, they are better able to understand a client's problematic behavior. It really gives students and faculty an enhanced language to be able to communicate about differences."

For adult students, May says it gives them a chance to reframe the opportunities they've had or decisions they've made within the context of their strengths. They can better identify from their past decisions what worked and what didn't.

Professors in the English, math, and human services programs have begun to integrate StrengthsQuest concepts into their classroom. May says she hopes to see even more faculty join her. "If we as professors are fortunate enough to come across someone who is at a crossroads in their life – as is often the case with our students – there is tremendous value in being able to help them identify the strengths that are underlying their behaviors – the good ones and the challenging ones – and help them on the road to success."

## Onondaga Phonathon Underway

The Phonathon is an important component of the annual Fund for OCC. Twice a year, Onondaga students staff the phones on campus and reach out to the almost 38,000 alumni for support of the Annual Fund. Through this effort, the College learns more about the outstanding career and academic achievements of our alumni and in turn, many alumni enhance the college experience at their alma mater through important financial support. This support provides Onondaga with a source of flexible funds that can be used on a daily basis to support the College's most pressing needs.

The OCC Foundation has provided more than \$1.5 million in scholarships, gifts and grants in support of Onondaga students, faculty and programs. The Foundation relies on the success of efforts like the Fund for OCC for donor and alumni support. In 2007, Fund for OCC contributions helped with travel costs for two Onondaga professors and a group of students to study Mayan civilization in Guatemala—see story on page 10—just one of many initiatives that Fund for OCC contributions help make possible. Year after year, the Annual Fund delivers financial resources for a range of projects that might not otherwise be funded. Annual Fund participants support Onondaga's mission of empowering individuals to explore and discover their inherent potential and to transform themselves to live, work and thrive in our global community.

All contributors to the Fund for OCC receive a special "Friend of Education" window decal to proudly display support for Onondaga Community College.



**Did you know?** Onondaga alumni receive 10% off the purchase of any logo item at the College bookstore. Simply present your *Continuum* mailing at the time of checkout.



## Dr. Ednita Wright: Pioneer of AIDS Education

*Dr. Ednita M. Wright, assistant professor of human services / teacher education. She is frequently sought after by local media for her expertise in the areas of HIV/AIDS and substance abuse. Dr. Wright's complete profile can be found on Onondaga's Faculty Expert Guide at [www.sunyocc.edu](http://www.sunyocc.edu). Click on 'News and Events.'*

Earlier this year, through the steadfast efforts of Dr. Ednita Wright, Onondaga professor of human services, the College received a grant from the New York State Department of Health. This grant will be used to fund education and awareness initiatives in an effort to educate students about the state, national and international epidemic of HIV, AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.

Dr. Wright, a licensed social worker, is a passionate advocate for HIV/AIDS education and awareness particularly among college students. "I want to find

new ways of working with college students," says Dr. Wright. "We have to educate them on what their specific risk factors are and how they can best protect themselves."

Dr. Wright plans to host several free, confidential testing days in early 2009 in partnership with the Onondaga County Health Department. Additionally, she is planning several educational panels, in partnership with the New York State Department of Health, to educate students and the community about STDs, HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness.

Dr. Wright is involved in planning campus events for World AIDS Day, December 1.

"We're forging into new terrain here," says Dr. Wright. "This kind of outreach hasn't really happened in New York. We'll definitely share what we learn with other community colleges in the state."

## Exploring Guatemala and Honduras

By Dr. Rick McLain, professor of history.



This spring, history professor Dr. Hiram Smith and I led a group of 19 students on a College-sponsored trip to Guatemala and Honduras. Many of the students had never been this far away from home, and had never experienced first-hand the realities of life in the developing world. The gap between the rich and

poor was shocking to some of them. It certainly broadened their view of the world. Students were impressed with the achievements of the ancient Maya as seen in the ruins of Copan, Honduras and Quirigua and Tikal in Guatemala. The grandeur and scope of these sites left all with greater knowledge and respect for this ancient civilization. The group also spent a few days in the Spanish colonial capital of Antigua, which is a World Heritage Site.

Besides earning extra credit for participating in the trip, the students were enthusiastic to experience new cultures. This truly was an effective way to globalize the curriculum. Having taken a few hundred books and magazines to students at a school in Antigua, we have



also laid the groundwork to further enhance the service learning component of the trip next year, which will help disadvantaged students in local schools.

The Maya are a contemporary people, with a vital culture, as well as being an impressive ancient civilization, and it is important for any observer to see both of these aspects.

We are now working on a presentation to the College faculty to discuss the ways in which we are incorporating our research into our courses. This was a highly rewarding experience; we plan to return to Central America next year with another student group.

### Voices and Votes

*continued from page 2*

is a 'grow your own' mentality where we train our own population to help serve the election process. I think that's why Onondaga is somewhat better suited than some other colleges in the area to do this program because many of their students are from outside the county."

In early 2007, the College partnered with the Onondaga County Board of Elections to help provide training to poll workers. Onondaga instructors who teach through the noncredit lifelong learning programs developed the current inspector course and materials and conducted training for more than 2,100 poll workers in 2007.

"Our goal is to pair up the current county poll workers whom we trained last year with the college students who are also being trained on this new technology," says Christina Brown, coordinator of workforce development. She says that a primary reason for this training is demographics. "In our county, and in many regions across the country, the many of existing poll workers have expressed reluctance at learning the new technology associated with new poll machines," says Brown. "Without this training, the BOE loses about 15 percent of their poll workers through attrition. So, who better to work the poll booths than college students? They are familiar with and embrace new technology and their schedules are flexible enough to meet this need."

"This opportunity will give students a chance to integrate what they've learned in poll worker training with what they learn in textbooks. The principles of democracy will come to life," says Tamrowski.

Approximately 140 students are expected to complete the poll worker training which includes a two-hour training session and a 30-minute exam. They are required to be 18 years of age, U.S. citizens, registered to vote and registered in a political party. Trained students are expected to work on Election Day, November 4 and will be paid through the Board of Elections.

## Green News...

### Whole Earth Club

This fall, biology professor Dr. Peter Kraai along with several biology students and members of the student-run Whole Earth Club, began operation of three new composting bins located on the quad near the Gordon Student Center. The compost bins will be receptacles for food waste products that will then be naturally converted into compost. Under the leadership of Dr. Kraai, the compost bins serve as visible representations of the College's commitment to sustainability.



Biology professor Dr. Peter Kraai

### centro

In support of sustainability and a greener campus, the College has partnered with Centro to offer all students free bus transportation to and from the campus and anywhere Centro travels within Onondaga County, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

# Reaching Out To Working Adult Students

As the evening program coordinator, Jerry Farnett's job is to meet the needs of the growing numbers of students who attend college in the evening. "My job is to give attention and validity to the evening student," says Farnett. "I really believe that much of what happens during the day should be formatted specifically at a time and in a timeline that is convenient for working adults."



Under his leadership and with the cooperation of several key departments on campus, an evening orientation was created for new students this fall. Orientation is a very valuable and necessary part of the college experience that working adults are often not able to attend during the day.

Farnett, of Syracuse, holds an associate degree in human services from Onondaga, a bachelor's degree in psychology from LeMoyne College and a master's degree in English from City College of New York. Prior to joining Onondaga, he worked for the City University of New York (CUNY) system as coordinator of tutoring and supplemental instruction at Lehman College.

Jerry Farnett can be reached Monday – Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at (315) 498-2818 or e-mail [farnettj@sunyocc.edu](mailto:farnettj@sunyocc.edu).

## Partnership with SUNY ESF

*continued from page 4*

"Access to high quality excellence in affordable education is core to Onondaga's mission," said Onondaga Community College President Debbie L. Sydow, Ph.D. "More than 60 percent of our students are enrolled in transfer programs, and they often look to SUNY to continue their education. The signing of this agreement further expands intra-SUNY transfer and makes a significant difference for students to be able to afford a high-quality bachelor's degree without leaving Central New York."

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*"The agreement will help keep our bright young people in Central New York, where they can contribute to the vibrancy of our community and advance our efforts to develop our region as a leader in the emerging green economy."*

*Cornelius B. Murphy, Jr., Ph.D., ESF president*

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A significant part of the agreement is the Transfer Scholarship Program that provides qualified Onondaga graduates with scholarships equal to the difference in full-time tuition costs between the two institutions. Ultimately, Onondaga students will pay the same tuition at SUNY ESF that they paid while attending Onondaga.

"ESF is very pleased to enhance our relationship with Onondaga Community College through this transfer partnership agreement," said Cornelius B. Murphy, Jr., Ph.D., ESF President. "The agreement will help keep our bright young people in Central New York, where they can contribute to the vibrancy of our community and advance our efforts to develop our region as a leader in the emerging green economy."



## GRANT NEWS

### Onondaga Receives A \$1.9 Million Grant To Enhance First-Time Student Experience

In July, the U.S. Department of Education awarded Onondaga Community College a five-year grant of \$1.9 million under the Strengthening Institutions Program, authorized under Title III, Part A of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. The grant includes a \$250,000 private match for an endowment

Onondaga's project, Fulfilling the Promise: A "Power Start Program" is designed to improve the College's capacity to help students achieve their goals and fulfill their potential. The project will enable the college to pilot and implement an enhanced orientation, assessment and advisement system, using a developmental advisement model, as well as a new first-year experience course and related programming, expand professional development opportunities for faculty and staff to support the initiative and implement a new electronic retention and alert/referral system that will provide greater support to academic advisors and enhance our ability to track and analyze student outcomes and support their success.

### ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition Volunteers Receive Green Contractor Training at Onondaga

Onondaga Community College recently completed its first round of "Green Contractor" training sessions. During the summer, more than 58 companies and approximately 125 individuals in the construction and design fields attended Introduction to Building Green and LEED for Contractors, a workshop presented by Onondaga Community College and the U.S. Green Building Council New York Upstate Chapter. The workshop was designed to help meet the growing demand for green building in Central New York.

Also, nearly 30 volunteers working on the ABC television show *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*, attended a special session of the workshop, "Extreme Green Building," in preparation for the home makeover project conducted on a Central New York home in August. This initiative was supported with a grant from the SUNY Community College Workforce Development grant program. The College and the U.S. Green Building Council New York Upstate Chapter plan to continue offering additional sessions of the workshop this winter.

### Onondaga Awards National Science Foundation Scholarships to First "NSF Scholars"

Earlier this year, the College awarded National Science Foundation (NSF) Scholarships to its first group of "NSF Scholars," funded through the National Science Foundation Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The program is designed to increase the number of academically talented, financially needy students who pursue degrees in STEM programs to help the nation become more competitive and meet the growing need demand for these skills. The program provides scholarship for up to \$10,000 per year, based on financial need, for students who demonstrate high academic achievement and interest in continuing their education in STEM fields. The first group of NSF Scholars celebrated their academic achievements with an end-of-the year lunch meeting in May.

# The 2008-2009 season marks the sixth year for Arts Across Campus and the lineup for the upcoming year proves to be the best yet!

From world-renowned international artists and popular local entertainers, to the monumental sculpture tour Onondaga Community College will be the place to be, to quench the thirst of any art lover.

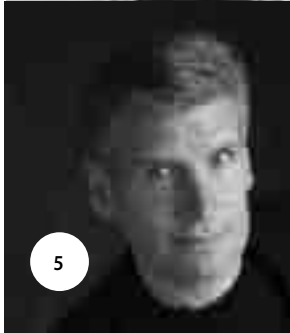
## Presenting In December:



"Charles Dickens Presents: A Christmas Carol" by Mike Randall

To round out the fall season Onondaga Community College alumnus Mike Randall will take the stage in December to perform the one-act hit: "Charles Dickens Presents: A Christmas Carol." Randall is bringing Charles Dickens to life, recreating the author's own immensely popular readings of Dickens' classic play, "A Christmas Carol."

Friday December 5 at 7 p.m. in Storer Auditorium, an alumni reception will be held at 5:30 p.m. just prior to this production. To RSVP, call the Alumni Office at (315) 498-6058 or e-mail [murphya@sunyocc.edu](mailto:murphya@sunyocc.edu)



## Spring Event Highlights

1. Ceramicist James Watkins  
Gallery Exhibit  
January 26 – February 20
2. Paul Robeson Performing  
Arts Company  
Thursday, February 12
3. Singer Songwriter Jacque Kofi  
Lecture and Performance  
Thursday, March 12
4. Gallery Exhibition:  
Anne Novado Cappuccilli  
March 30 – April 22  
Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
5. Percussionist Michael Burritt  
Concert/Clinic  
Tuesday, March 31



For more information about Arts Across Campus events visit [sunyocc.edu](http://sunyocc.edu) or call 498-ARTS (2787)

## OPEN HOUSE

Friday, November 7, 2008  
1 - 3 p.m.  
Gordon Student Center



**New Program!**  
**Physical Education and Exercise Science, A.A.S.**  
Go to [sunyocc.edu](http://sunyocc.edu) for details.

For more information call 498-2221 or visit [sunyocc.edu](http://sunyocc.edu)

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## In Memoriam

### Faculty, Staff & Administrators:

Patricia M. Baggett  
Catherine S. Bench  
Robert R. Bolton  
William J. Crandall '71  
Baron W. Duncan  
Joseph E. Roesch, Ph.D.  
Harry W. Shores

### OCC Alumni:

Tara M. DeSimone '98	Elizabeth M. Maye '81
Dwight H. Emmons, Sr. '85	Kathleen M. Ruskowski '82
Walter S. Giemza '75	Michael A. Schlacter '81
Mary Christine Kemp '78	Barbara E. Zufelt '87

Continuum is published for Onondaga supporters, friends, alumni and the Central New York community.

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