A World of Research

Through Syracuse Abroad, students are becoming global citizens.
Features

19 Be Orange
A new image campaign provides compelling glimpses into the Syracuse University student experience and encourages the entire Orange family to share what it means to #BEORANGE.

22 Looking Back, Acting Forward
For the past 30 years, the Syracuse University community has honored the victims of the Pam Am 103 tragedy by building a culture of remembrance and tolerance to change the world.

26 A World of Research Opportunities
From the high peaks of the Himalayas to an archaeological site in Ghana, SU students participating in Syracuse Abroad become global citizens through hands-on learning and international research projects.

25 An Orange Friendship Forged in Africa
Q&A with Major Michael Kan ’06, of the U.S. Air Force, and Captain Alex d’Orchimont ’11, of the U.S. Army, both deployed in Niger. Learn how their Orange bond prepared them to succeed and gives them a sense of home from half a world away.

31 Enriched by the Maxwell Experience
For Kem Raj Sedhai G’19, the opportunities available through the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs offer a dramatic change from the world he knew, growing up in a remote Nepalese village.

32 There’s No Place Like ’Cuse
Nearly 2,600 alumni and friends returned to campus for Orange Central homecoming and reunion weekend.

34 With Boost the ’Cuse II Mission, Syracuse Soars!
Syracuse University’s second annual 24-hour day of giving brought the Orange family together in new ways.

Sections

1 Chancellor’s Message

2 Orange Matters
- Milestones: University College and Syracuse University Press
- Family Weekend Highlights
- Lender Center for Social Justice
- Campus Framework Update
- Taxing Issues for a Globalized World

10 SU People

36 Alumni Journal
Profiles:
Barbara “Bobbie” Giacino ’18
Melanie Gray L’81
Bob Lord ’85

Reflections:
Steven Handler ’88
Harold Lieberman G’57

On the Cover:
Mount Everest Base Camp Trek, a research expedition studying the human response to high altitude. See story on page 30. Photo by Andrew Burton
It is a great time to be Orange. This fall, our University welcomed one of the most qualified classes in Syracuse University history. We honored the service of our veterans, and once again were recognized by the Military Times as being the best private university for veterans. We attracted record attendance for our Orange Central homecoming and reunion weekend. We raised a record total and broke participation records in Boost the ’Cuse II, our one-day giving challenge. We marked 100 years of University College and 75 years for the Syracuse University Press. We welcomed visitors from Lockerbie and remembered those who lost their lives in the tragic bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 almost 30 years ago.

Syracuse University is working hard to provide a distinctive student experience on our campus and around the world, for students who enter Syracuse after high school, for those who have served our nation and for those who are balancing careers and family with their ambition to earn an undergraduate or advanced degree. Through Syracuse Abroad, in courses offered on our campuses and online to students in hundreds of locations, and in daily interactions with a richly diverse student body, Syracuse University provides education and experiences that help our students become global citizens, form bonds of friendship when far from home and define what it means to Be Orange.

Thanks to the generosity of donors and friends, Syracuse students scale mountains and explore ancient civilizations, honor those we lost 30 years ago through their actions, and learn to change the world. Thanks to the generosity of Marvin ’63 and Helaine Lender ’65, faculty and students will work together as fellows to advance the cause of social justice. Thanks to all of the generous donors to Syracuse Athletics, our student-athletes achieve academic success and aspire to help others.

The people who make up Syracuse University are very committed to making the world better—on a local scale and on the global stage. I hope that their stories inspire you.

Sincerely,

Kent Syverud
Chancellor and President
SU Press and University College Celebrate Milestones

**75 Years of Publishing**
Since its first title in 1943, the Syracuse University Press has been committed to publishing vital scholarship, sharing ideas and giving voices to important stories that may not have been told otherwise.

Friends of the press celebrated its 75th anniversary in October with a gathering at the Everson Museum of Art in downtown Syracuse. Director Alice Pfeiffer announced several new initiatives, including a distribution partnership with esteemed poetry publisher Sheep Meadow Press and the launch of a Veterans Writing Award in collaboration with the Institute for Veterans and Military Families. Authors Rick Burton and Scott Pitoniak (pictured left) discussed research efforts for Forever Orange: The Story of Syracuse University, coming in Fall 2019 to coincide with SU’s sesquicentennial.

**A Century-Old Tradition of Lifelong Learning**
“University College students are shining examples of committed, driven and tenacious individuals that have enriched this campus for the past 100 years. They bring with them real life experience, unique perspectives and the desire to make a positive difference,” said Jackie Robinson, a former TV news anchor and reporter who gave the opening remarks at UC’s anniversary gala in October.

The gala raised approximately $20,000 to start a centennial fund supporting part-time undergraduate students. Intended for assistance with everything from tuition and fees to class materials, computers and childcare, the fund honors a century of making academic achievement available to adults who must balance multiple commitments.

Chancellor Kent Syverud spoke about how UC’s model of flexibility and responsiveness to change represents a core ethos of the University—one that would only grow in importance. “University College’s tradition has never been more needed, or more salient, than it is today,” Syverud said.

---

**A LIFE CHANGED**
Kenisha Woodall ’17 grew up in a poor neighborhood in the city of Syracuse, and obtaining a degree from SU seemed a distant dream. Woodall had her son at age 22 and for the next 15 years worked primarily in nail salons and retail outlets. With assistance from the Higher Education Opportunity Program, she enrolled in University College as a part-time student and earned a degree in child and family studies. Today she has a career providing services to youth and families, and she sets a proud example for her children. “No matter where you start, it’s through hard work and determination that you achieve your goals,” she says. Learn more by watching the UC 100 video at syracuse.edu/admissions/part-time.
Welcome, Orange Families!

Syracuse University welcomed more than 5,500 parents, siblings, grandparents and other loved ones to campus for Family Weekend in October. Nearly 2,000 individual families traveled from 39 states and 10 countries.

1. Family Weekend Welcome address with Chancellor Kent Syverud.
2. Families came from around the U.S. and the world to visit with their favorite SU students.
3. The Whitman School of Management was among many schools hosting special programs for families.
4. The SU Marching Band performs in the Carrier Dome for Saturday’s football game against N.C. State.
Lender Center for Social Justice Holds Inaugural Symposium

What does it mean to do good work? What is good? Who decides when something is good?

Participants pondered these questions and more during the inaugural symposium at the launch of the Syracuse University Lender Center for Social Justice in September.

Created with the help of a $5 million gift from Marvin ’63 and Helaine Gold Lender ’65 (pictured above), the Lender Center seems to answer these questions by bringing faculty, students, alumni and the community together to find innovative solutions for complex social justice issues—ultimately providing models for others to follow.

The symposium (pictured at right) brought the insights of alumni and faculty alike to answer these core questions. For Sherri Williams ’10 G’15, an answer lies in communication. “The way I uphold social justice as a journalist, scholar and professor at American University ... is essentially by documenting what happened, to people who are marginalized, people who have been forgotten, oppressed and excised to the margins,” she said.

Betsy Sherwood ’04, works for good through humanitarian response services with Save the Children. “Social justice is one of our core values, as are the dignity and work of all people,” she said. “Everything we do is to ensure that all people have equitable access to services.”

With their social start-up, KIMBRITIVE LLC in the Bronx, Brittany Brathwaite ’13 and Kimberly Huggins ’13 are on a mission to normalize healthy conversations about sexuality, relationships and reproductive justice while empowering and celebrating the voices and experiences of young people and women of color.

“At the core is a passion and commitment toward justice and equity,” said center co-director Marcelle Haddix. “This is not an end point or an end goal, but a constant action and purpose.”
Marvin and Helaine, who met as students on the SU campus, expressed their desire to carry on their family legacy and values. “We grew up in families that worked hard to provide for us and to instill strong values, to give back to the community,” she said. “We wanted to make a difference directed at you, our young people, and the future.”

Marvin spoke of his parents, who came to the U.S. from Eastern Europe penniless, worked hard and raised six children. With gratitude for the opportunities he was afforded, Marvin said he works hard to pay it forward. “We do feel that we owe the world something,” he said, adding that the Center reflects a commitment to social justice and to educating young people. “It is you, the students, who are going to make a difference in the world going forward,” he said.

Marvin Lender, a life trustee on the SU Board of Trustees, and the Lender family are well known for their philanthropy. Lender has provided past support and leadership to the university, chairing “The Commitment to Learning” campaign, which raised $380 million. Both Helaine and Marvin Lender have been dedicated to many nonprofits, in their communities and globally, to improve education, health care and social services.

The family is also well known for its business, Lender’s Frozen Bagels. After graduating from Syracuse, Marvin joined his brothers at their bagel company, then located in a garage behind their New Haven home. Marvin and his brother Murray expanded the retail market, turning an “ethnic” product into a national staple. The brothers’ attention to consumers fostered trust, while the company consistently offered a quality product. After the sale of Lender’s to Kraft Foods in 1984, Marvin devoted his time to philanthropy and helping others.

“Keynote speaker Kevin Kumashiro, Ph.D., outlined five lenses for engagement in social justice work, particularly education.

ABOUT THE LENDER CENTER lendercenter.syr.edu

- Hosts activities and programming, including interdisciplinary collaborations with other university units to promote a robust dialogue about issues of justice, equity and inclusion.
- Co-directors are Marcelle Haddix, dean’s associate professor and chair of the reading and language arts department in the School of Education; and Kendall R. Phillips, professor of communication and rhetorical studies in the College of Visual and Performing Arts.
- Lender faculty fellowship: The Center seeks applications for its inaugural faculty fellowship. This award supports a two-year research agenda to critically and creatively explore contemporary social issues, develop innovative approaches to these problems, and implement useful and sustainable initiatives.
Campus Framework Supports Student Success

All over the Syracuse University campus—inside and out, up high and on ground—significant construction is happening this fall. A quick tour of campusframework.syr.edu shows highlights of progress within the strategic framework that guides campus planning and development. From a new undergraduate research office in Bird Library to an updated student services suite at Crouse College, student focus is one of the hallmarks of Campus Framework projects.

In keeping with the University’s goal to nourish the whole student to support academic, social and emotional well-being, work continues on the site of the Barnes Center at The Arch, with completion scheduled for Fall 2019. Located at the heart of the Syracuse University campus, this state-of-the-art health, wellness and recreation complex is made possible through the vision and generosity of Board of Trustees Chairman Steven W. Barnes ’82 and his wife, Deborah.

Located just off the Shaw Quadrangle, The Arch replaces the former Archbold and Flanagan gymnasiums and will house all campus health and wellness services in one location. “This isn’t just a rec center,” says Peter Sala, university vice president and chief facilities officer. “We’re including the counseling center, health services... all student wellness needs.” Based on survey feedback from SU students, faculty and staff, fitness resources will include an elevated walking/running track, a climbing wall and even an eSports game room.

“The Arch is a huge step in promoting health and wellness for a diverse student body,” says Student...
Association President Ghufran Salih ’20. “It will be a great way to bring the campus together.”

The National Veterans Resource Center will connect SU student veterans with the local and regional communities. On site at the corner of South Crouse and Waverly avenues, concrete pouring continued throughout the summer. In mid-October, the first piece of steel girding was placed in the ground.

The Center is a unique, multi-use facility that will advance academic research, actionable programs and community-connected innovation to serve our nation’s veterans and military families. The 115,000-square-foot, LEED-certified structure will feature classroom and meeting spaces, along with a conference center and auditorium suitable to host community activities, lectures and national events and conferences. It has been designed to meet Universal Design principles, which aim to create facilities that can be accessed, understood and used to the greatest extent possible by all people regardless of their age, size, ability or disability.

SU’s Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) will anchor the Center. As the first interdisciplinary academic institute in higher education singularly focused on advancing the post-service lives of America’s service members, veterans and their families, the IVMF recently surpassed 100,000 people served through its programming and resources for career, vocational and entrepreneurship education and training. “It’s exciting to observe this incredible vision coming to life right before us,” says Michael Haynie, vice chancellor for strategic initiatives and innovation and executive director of IVMF. “Each day, it becomes more and more apparent just how central [the NVRC] will be, not only to the University but also to the region and the nation.”

Completion of the NVRC is scheduled for Spring 2020. Watch progress at NVRC.syr.edu or view live construction 24/7 at nvrc.syr.edu/constructioncam/.

DID YOU KNOW?

At the start of World War II, Syracuse University was a small teaching college serving a student body of approximately 5,000. As the end of the war approached, Chancellor William Tolley was asked by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to serve as a member of a small group of college and university leaders tasked with creating what would ultimately become the Servicemen’s Readjustment Act of 1944—known as the GI Bill. Since the end of WWII, SU’s connection to the veteran- and military-connected community has remained strong and central to its identity.

SU has been recognized by Military Times as the No. 1 private school and No. 4 institution overall in the publication’s 2019 Best for Vets rankings. The only private institution to make the list’s top 10, SU boasts the highest military graduation rate of the top five schools.
Taxing Issues for a Globalized World

In Marnin J. Michaels L’96, G’96, Dean Craig M. Boise couldn’t have found a better co-instructor for the College of Law’s first-ever International Tax Law course. The course, subtitled The Evolving Role of International Tax, Transparency and Tax Equalization, is squarely in Michaels’ wheelhouse.

Michaels is a member of the management team in the Zurich office of Baker & McKenzie, a legal powerhouse spanning 47 countries. He has been practicing for more than 20 years in the areas of tax and international banking; about 60 percent of his practice is large-scale regulatory and investigation projects. “The remaining part is working with some of the most interesting global families that have wealth similar to large companies,” says Michaels, who holds SU degrees from the College of Law and Maxwell School (international relations). “Particularly in Asia and Latin America, business is family business.”

The course featured seminars and lectures in Switzerland and Liechtenstein, and included meetings with financial firms, government offices, universities and banks. It tackled hot buttons for global tax jurisdictions—like the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act and the Common Reporting Standard, which deal with cross-border tax compliance, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development initiative to address tax-avoidance strategies in the international context.

Michaels is a member of the College of Law Board of Advisors, where he supports students, gives lectures, and advances strategic and financial initiatives. His specialty, tax and private wealth management, exposes SU students to the ways of today’s interlinked, globalized world. “We live in a transformational time,” he says. “Governments now enforce laws and speak to one another. People must be transparent to governments, while at the same time they want to protect their privacy more than ever before.”

It’s all part of a legal profession in flux. “AI [artificial intelligence] is replacing much of what lawyers used to do,” Michaels says. “Young lawyers used to spend their time looking for the law; now, they analyze the law. The days of stodgy law firms with large book collections and big offices are over.”

He has some counsel for today’s law students, gleaned from his formidable global experience: Be cognizant of diversity, and extend your intellect’s reach. “All law projects today cross borders, races and religions, and if you are not culturally literate, you will lose out,” he says. “You must also be literate in finance, science and/or technology. The future of law lies in the integration of these disciplines. If you cannot merge them, you are in trouble.”

As complex and far reaching as Michaels’ practice is, he keeps busy on other fronts. He was on the steering committee for the U.S. Department of Justice Swiss Bank Program to combat tax evasion. He serves on the board of Wonderland Nursery Goods, and is part-owner of the Waldhotel Fletschhorn in Switzerland’s Saas-Fee valley. The hotel is part of the Relais & Châteaux association of individually owned and operated luxury hotels and restaurants.

Michaels owns an apartment nearby. That’s where the high-powered lawyer takes a deep breath and unwinds—something he tried to convey to SU law students in the course. “They try to plan their entire future,” Michaels says. “I learned that I have to teach people to relax, and not try to micromanage life.” —John Martin
Breona Jones-Rice ’19 started observing open heart and thoracic surgeries when she was still a high school student. Her passionate interest in biotechnology—and strong support from the Ruth and Herbert Meyer Scholarship—opened a door to Syracuse University, the school of her dreams.

As a biotechnology major, she’s eager to conduct hands-on research and eventually pursue a pharmacology degree, so she can one day help develop new and lifesaving drugs. And, as the first in her family to attend college, she aspires to become “one of the many who gives back to those who invested in her.”

Read more about Breona and learn how you can invest in SU students who believe in the possibilities of a better world. Visit changealife.syr.edu/breona or call 315.443.1848.

Syracuse University

giving.syr.edu
Student Association Leaders Strive for Positive Change

Student Association (SA) President Ghufran Salih ’20 and Vice President Kyle Rosenblum ’20 are committed to introducing positive change on campus. Their agenda focuses on such campus issues as raising awareness about mental health, addressing sexual and relationship violence, and improving diversity and inclusion. Prior to their elections, Salih, an information management and technology major, was involved with First Year Players and the Muslim Student Association, while Rosenblum served as co-chair of SA’s health and wellness subcommittee. They spoke recently with Syracuse University Magazine; here are some highlights of the conversation:

What do you want students to understand about the importance of mental health?

Kyle Rosenblum: I always like to say there are two components of creating progressive change regarding mental health and mental health resources, and the first is institutional change. What’s been happening the last two years—combining health and wellness centers, building The Arch, expanding the counseling center, hiring new therapists—all that is incredible and will expand the resources we have for mental health. But that change is meaningless unless we, in tandem, create an environment where it’s acceptable to talk about mental health and it’s acceptable to reach out.

From your perspective, what is the best way to foster diversity and inclusion on campus?

Ghufran Salih: I think tackling diversity and inclusion starts with conversation and understanding, and with students leading most of those conversations.

How do you instill a sense of community among undergraduates?

KR: I think it all comes back to how we break through barriers—that’s by shared experiences and by creating events that reach throughout campus, that create connectivity.

GS: And by not being afraid to reach out, reaching out to anyone who might be different from you or who might be the same as you and you may not know. It’s sometimes hard and intimidating, but it’s worth it in the end.—Jay Cox

Ghufran Salih ’20
President, Student Association

Kyle Rosenblum ’20
Vice President, Student Association
Dean Liz Liddy Reflects on Her Many Roles at Syracuse University

Liz Liddy has held many titles over her 40-year career in academia. Dean, interim provost, trustee, professor, CEO, author and entrepreneur are just a few. The end of this academic year will add one last title to her repertoire: “retiree.”

For Liddy, dean of Syracuse University’s School of Information Studies is the designation that stands out most. “This is a role I have truly loved,” she says. “The iSchool has been growing steadily, producing amazing students who frequently return as alumni to interview and hire current students. Placement rates and starting salaries are among the highest on campus. I really love the students and admire them deeply.”

Information technology may seem an unlikely vocation for an English major, but it was part of Liddy’s evolution—starting when she grew up in Utica, New York, in a home with five kids and no television. Every Saturday, she and her siblings accompanied their father to the public library, where they’d explore the treasures buried in the stacks and bring home piles of books. “I’m sure this is how my fascination with research began,” Liddy says.

Her father was an entrepreneur who had his own business, and going to work with Dad was a family activity from a very young age. The fusion of her love for the written word and the entrepreneurial spirit fueled a life of discovery and innovation in information technology, particularly in natural language processing, which became the focus of her research and expertise.

Building the iSchool into a national leader and being the CEO of her start-up, TextWise, were rewarding endeavors. But Liddy considers her mentorship of young women to be among her greatest achievements. “This year’s entering class is 47 percent female, which is amazing for a technical, computer-focused field,” she says. This surge may have been inspired by the IT Girls Overnight Retreat, a program Liddy implemented that brings 100 high school girls to campus for a weekend to explore the world of information in hands-on sessions with female faculty, alumni and employers. “They leave the weekend really excited about IT,” Liddy says, “and our resulting yield rate of iSchool admits is exceptionally high.”

“Dean Liddy’s service to Syracuse University in many roles leaves a legacy that touches the entire campus community, including students, faculty, staff, administration and alumni,” says Chancellor Kent Syverud. “She is a trusted colleague, a pioneer in her field, a dedicated educator, and an inspiration to colleagues, alumni and friends of Syracuse University.”

Liddy will be remembered for taking the iSchool and Syracuse to new levels of success, but retirement will shift her primary focus to family matters. Her three children and four grandchildren draw Liddy to winters in North Carolina and summers on Skaneateles Lake. But even the lure of leisurely afternoons boating on the lake won’t be enough to pull her entirely away from a life of professional service. “I’m on five boards,” she says, “and I’m eager to spend more time contributing.”

Read more about Liddy’s retirement and her legacy at news.syr.edu/liddyretirement.—Mary Beth Horsington
The Value of Diversity

Interim Chief Diversity Officer Keith A. Alford has always been guided in his professional and personal life by the words of the African proverb, “I am because we are, and because we are, therefore I am.” It speaks to him of family, community, and the shared trials and triumphs of lived experiences that bind people together.

In his academic life as chair of the School of Social Work in Syracuse University’s Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics and associate professor, the ties between students and professors supports their experience of learning and teaching together. Now, in his role to help find solutions for a more inclusive campus, Alford sees the proverb’s message resound across the wider SU community. “We are here for each other at all times. It’s important that we support each other and help students learn how to navigate our multicultural world, with an emphasis on equity and social justice,” Alford says. “But let’s also celebrate excellence and accomplishments with each other—that speaks to our interconnectedness.”

As the University conducts a national search for a chief diversity officer, Chancellor Kent Syverud asked Alford to take on the interim role on July 1 a few months after a Campus Conversation event Alford moderated. “Dr. Alford brought together diverse viewpoints, listened and responded in thoughtful ways to difficult issues, and helped unite our community in a common purpose,” Chancellor Syverud says.

Alford, who received a Ph.D. from the College of Social Work at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, specializes in mental health service delivery to children and families, culturally specific programming for children in out-of-home care and loss/grief reactions among African American families. Also a member of the Diversity and Inclusion Council, he’s focused his academic career on embracing the many identities that enrich society. “I feel humbled and fortunate to serve in this new role,” Alford says.

Since his appointment, Alford has sought to deepen engagement and strengthen relations among campus community members through the Embracing Our Connectivity initiative. The campaign will include campus displays of quotes and images from students that illustrate diversity and inclusion, “Let’s Connect” lunches hosted by Alford with small groups of students and other campus-wide sessions to discuss matters of concern.

Alford emphasizes that the University’s latest efforts to address matters of bias represent a continuation of diversity and inclusion initiatives underway for many years. “There are people who have served in various capacities associated with diversity and inclusion who continue to pave the way,” Alford says. He noted the current work of inclusive teaching workshops through the Office of Academic Affairs and Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, the various councils and committees focusing on diversity and inclusion, and ongoing efforts to recruit and retain faculty of color.

In his role, Alford comes together with many leaders and offices working on these issues, including members of the newly created Inclusive Leadership Assembly. The group, chaired by Alford and composed of faculty and staff from each of the University’s schools and colleges who lead the diversity and inclusion efforts in their respective units, discuss best practices and exchange ideas.

Alford has also met with a variety of student groups, including members of the Student Association, to make sure students feel they’re being heard. Along with creating a welcoming campus, the importance of all this work is ensuring that all students feel valued, he says. “At Syracuse University, we value diverse identities and cultural perspectives,” Alford says. “It is our premise that diversity and inclusion enhance who we are as students, faculty, staff and alumni.”—Kathleen Haley
Tripti Bhattacharya loves history and literature, but her career took shape when science ignited her curiosity in the same way. During a soil science class in her first year at Georgetown University, she discovered that not only was soil intimately tied to the rise and fall of civilizations, but also that science could be creative, challenging and fun. “That class captured my imagination,” says Bhattacharya, the Thonis Family Professor (II) in the Department of Earth Sciences, who joined the College of Arts and Sciences faculty this summer. “Thinking about the relationships between humans and the environment sent me down this road of doing research.”

Today, the climate scientist is at the forefront of interdisciplinary research that combines explorations of past climates with atmospheric science. She employs geochemistry, climate modeling and data analysis, incorporating information from the isotopic signature of ancient molecules to reconstruct major climate events from thousands of years ago. By doing this, she can relate her findings to the present and possibly the future.

Bhattacharya—who was born in Bangalore, India, and grew up in Hamilton, Ontario, and the San Francisco Bay Area—brought all these pieces together while earning a Ph.D. in geography (specializing in paleoclimatology and paleoecology) as a National Science Foundation fellow at the University of California, Berkeley, and working as a postdoctoral research associate at University of Arizona. At Arizona, she co-authored a 2018 study, published in Nature Geoscience, that revealed how the Sonoran Desert was influenced by monsoon activity during the last ice age, about 20,000 years ago. A key to the research involved geochemical analysis of hydrogen isotopes found in leaf waxes of ancient plants collected in sediment cores from the Gulf of California, allowing the scientists to determine when the plants absorbed monsoon rains.

The research also confirmed how atmospheric circulation in the mid-latitudes of the jet stream regulates monsoons and how sensitive monsoons are to global climate change. “Essentially the study shows us how the chemistry of these waxes is controlled by the jet stream,” Bhattacharya says. “That’s wild to think about, and it’s an example of science stretching your imagination because you have to appreciate that the world operates according to fundamental laws that we can understand using scientific tools.”

One theme that dominates Bhattacharya’s research is a desire to understand the dynamics of rainfall on a variety of timescales. Thanks to her soil science class, she majored in environmental science and gained three years of experience in the professor’s lab, which included a research project on the ancient Maya’s relationship to the soil and drought. Her curiosity led her to study how El Niño events caused droughts in Mesoamerica, and then monsoons swept into her research. She now plans to examine how elevated levels of greenhouse gases influenced past climates—work that directly helps us understand current and future global warming.

Bhattacharya is grateful for the enthusiastic support she’s received from SU Board of Trustees Vice Chair Michael Thonis ’72 and his wife, Susan, who established the professorship. The appointment will help her acquire research equipment and develop her lab, where she wants to involve undergraduates in research and instill enthusiasm for science—particularly among women and traditionally underrepresented groups. “For me, research is about coming up with new ideas and finding creative ways to test hypotheses,” Bhattacharya says. “Bringing undergraduate students into that creative journey can help convince them that they can succeed in STEM fields.”—Jay Cox
Expanding an All-Star Coaching Staff

Any successful sports team requires more than talent alone—it needs a strong leader. Coaches devote countless hours to designing training plans and strategies. They don’t just teach their sport; they teach leadership skills, teamwork, adaptability under pressure, how to win (and lose) with grace and dignity—all qualities that prepare student-athletes for success after they graduate. And Syracuse University Athletics is thrilled to have some of the best in their fields on team Orange.

“We’re fortunate to have an outstanding group of coaches who really represent the University and community in both athletic and academic excellence,” says John Wildhack ’80, director of Syracuse University Athletics. “Our coaches have a tremendous blend of experience—some with great institutional knowledge and a few who are newer to Syracuse, bringing fresh eyes and different perspectives.”

**BRIEN BELL**
**Track and Field**

For the past 13 seasons, Brien Bell has been instrumental in building the Syracuse cross country and track and field programs into national powers and the East Coast’s most dominant distance institution. Now Bell leads these programs as head coach.

Bell previously operated as associate head coach to Chris Fox, who announced his retirement from collegiate coaching in July to pursue opportunities in the professional ranks. During that time, Bell helped lead the Orange to a NCAA men’s cross country championship, three NCAA podium finishes in cross country and nine conference team titles between cross country and track.

Bell has mentored Orange student-athletes in cross country, and track and field to claim three individual NCAA championships, 15 cross country All-Americans, 24 U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) First Team All-Americans in track and nearly 200 all-conference honors between the programs. The men’s cross country team was named USTFCCCA Scholar Team of the Year in 2015, the same year they claimed NCAA Championship. Bell has also mentored 10 College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-Americans and, most recently, Paige Stoner, who became the first ACC Scholar Athlete of the Year in the same school year in Syracuse history.

**SHANNON DOEPKING**
**Softball**

SU welcomes Shannon Doepking as the new head coach of softball. Doepking most recently rebuilt Dartmouth’s softball program, helping create and direct an alumni mentoring and networking program there. She leaves Dartmouth with the second most coaching victories in program history (118) and two of its three Ivy League titles in 2015 and 2018.

Doepking helped improve the program’s standing by increasing Dartmouth’s strength of schedule. The Big Green owned the best Rating Percentage Index in the Ivy League in three of the four seasons Doepking was in charge.

A former softball player, Doepking was drafted 15th overall in the 2008 National Pro Fastpitch Draft by the Akron Racers. She played for the United States Specialty Sports Association Pride, the Tennessee Diamonds and the Chicago Bandits in a pro career spanning five seasons.
QUENTIN HILLSMAN
Women's Basketball
Syracuse University and Quentin Hillsman, head coach of women’s basketball, agreed to a contract extension that keeps him on the Orange sidelines through 2024. During his 12 years leading the program, the Orange women reached postseason competition 11 times, including seven NCAA tournaments and the 2016 national championship game.

Hillman has coached 13 all-conference selections, four All-Americans and four WNBA draft picks. The Orange have won at least 20 games in 10 of his 12 seasons at Syracuse.

The program has achieved a perfect single-year Academic Progress Rate score six times and a Graduation Success Rate of more than 90 percent during his tenure.

YOUNES LIMAM
Tennis
Syracuse University tennis has emerged as one of the top programs in the ACC and a national player in the Division I ranks under Head Coach Younes Limam’s leadership. Now SU and Limam have agreed to a contract extension.

A native of Mohammedia, Morocco, Limam came to Syracuse in 2014 after serving as an assistant coach at Rice University. Limam’s past four seasons at SU have resulted in 48 wins and berths in two NCAA tournaments. He’s coached four All-ACC team members and two All-Americans. During the 2018 campaign, Limam coached the doubles pair of junior Gabriela Knutson and Miranda Ramirez to a No. 8 ranking and clinched All-America status, helping them become the first Orange student-athletes to earn the honor since Erika O’Neill in 1985. Knutson also secured All-America status in singles, finishing the season with a 21-5 singles record and No. 8 ranking. The 2018 team advanced to the NCAA tournament after putting together one of the most impressive seasons in program history. After beginning the season unranked, Syracuse finished 2018 with a 17-8 record and earned a season-best No. 25 ranking—the second time in program history that the Orange cracked the Oracle/ITA Top-25 Poll.

Under his leadership, the Orange also have displayed excellence off the court, earning Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-Academic Team honors for the 2015-16 and 2017-18 academic years—the only times in program history.

LUKE MCGEE
Women’s Rowing
Former U.S. Olympic National Team Coach Luke McGee is bringing his extensive collegiate and international coaching experience to Syracuse University as the women’s rowing head coach. McGee takes over for Justin Moore, who guided the Orange to three NCAA championship appearances and seven top-three finishes in the ACC during his eight years at Syracuse. Moore stepped away from collegiate coaching to move into private business to import the sport on a larger scale.

As men’s head coach for the USA National Team from 2012-17, McGee led the men’s team to four World Cup medals, one world championship medal and a fourth place finish at the 2016 Rio Olympics. He was also the USA Under-23 team coordinator from 2011-17, guiding that squad to the gold medal at the 2012 Under-23 world championship.

Prior to working for USRowing, McGee served as an assistant coach for the University of Washington’s men’s rowing program, where he helped guide the team to five consecutive national championships (2008-12) and 20 individual boat national titles.
People, Process and Problem Solving

For nearly two decades, Tina Nabatchi has explored the role of public administration in our lives, contributing her expertise and insights on the value of citizen engagement, collaborative governance and dispute resolution. “I think of public administration as being the discipline of shaping societal affairs,” says Nabatchi, the inaugural Joseph A. Strasser Endowed Professor in Public Administration at the Maxwell School. “It translates legislative intent into action that addresses every kind of public problem you can imagine. For that reason, I love it and am excited every day for the work I do.”

Nabatchi’s scholarly work focuses on process over policy and emphasizes the art of public administration, reflecting her belief that people skills, like interpersonal communication and teamwork, are essential. “It’s all about interaction,” says Nabatchi, who joined Maxwell’s Department of Public Administration and International Affairs in 2007. “I’m really interested in how we, as human beings, work together to solve problems—whether those are large-scale or interpersonal issues—and I think there’s a suite of skills, techniques and processes that can help us achieve better outcomes.”

Concerns about the world have been on Nabatchi’s mind since she was a youngster in the small Pennsylvania town of Brookville. She fondly recalls her family’s evening routine of watching the news after dinner and having conversations about what was happening. This daily engagement had a big impact on her, so it seemed natural to study political science at American University. Not set on a career after graduating, she headed to Vermont and worked as a bartender, waitress, candlemaker and ski-lift operator. But a course at the University of Vermont introduced her to public administration and carried her into new territory. “I was hooked,” she says. “It was the politics of problem solving, not the politics of getting elected. It was the doing—the active work on the ground.”

Nabatchi earned a master of public administration degree at UVM and a Ph.D. in public affairs at Indiana University-Bloomington. She also taught, worked as research coordinator at IU’s Indiana Conflict Resolution Institute, and served as a mediator and facilitator in community programs. This blending of theory, research and practice has been influential in her career as she tackles topics ranging from deliberative democracy and environmental governance to patient participation in medical decision-making to reduce diagnostic errors. At Maxwell, she’s a faculty research associate at both the Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflict and Collaboration and the Campbell Public Affairs Institute. She collaborates with international scholars studying citizen engagement in the production and delivery of public goods and services, and is coordinating the work of graduate students on an initiative, funded by a Canadian government agency, that involves the Participedia Project, an online repository featuring cases about democratic innovations worldwide. The students will curate cases for the database, transform cases into classroom teaching materials about citizen participation, and write and publish articles about select cases.

As the Strasser Professor, Nabatchi wants to share with students the ideals of public service embodied by Maxwell alumnus Joe Strasser ’53, G’58, a longtime public administrator and Maxwell supporter whose gift established the position. “I really hope to reflect that in my work. I’m excited to use the chair and its resources to support students and get the word out about public service and why it’s good,” she says. “It’s needed, it’s necessary, and it’s a noble cause.”—Jay Cox
Exploring, Researching and Testing Her Limits

When selecting a college, Tajanae Harris ’20 looked for some specifics: a lot of school spirit, access to a range of opportunities, a real campus feel, and a location in a part of the country she’d never explored. Those criteria led her to Syracuse University.

Harris’ passion for experiencing new places and her sincere interest in other cultures stem from her time at an all-girls private high school that accepted students from around the world. Hearing their stories inspired the Dallas, Texas, native. “That’s when I first started to wonder, ‘How far can I go?’” she says.

Harris, the first in her family to pursue a college degree, is majoring in anthropology with minors in data analytics and Spanish. As part of an Americorps team during the summer between her freshman and sophomore years, she researched the perception and use of public spaces by immigrant communities in the Boston area. Since then, her academic focus has been on immigrants, refugees and cultural change.

Harris is a Ronald E. McNair Scholar (part of a federally funded program that prepares high achieving undergraduate students for graduate studies) and also in the Renée Crown University Honors Program. She’s studying how being in the United States changes first-generation immigrants’ expressions or interpretations of their cultural norms. Her goal is to compare her U.S. findings with those of immigrants in France or Germany.

Meanwhile, Harris is preparing for a trip to Ghana, thanks to the Mark and Pearle Clements Internship Award, which assists SU students undertaking unique internships. In Ghana she’ll study how traditional storytelling is used to address modern issues like health education. Harris says traditional West African storytelling is very theatrical—like a one-person show—and it’s used to spread important information in certain low-literacy populations.

Harris is also a research assistant on a project headed by Professors Kevin Crowston and Carsten Osterlund in the School of Information Studies. Their analysis explores the motivations of volunteer citizen-scientists and their capacities to collaborate across space and cultural differences. Harris hopes eventually to combine her interests in data analysis and diverse communities to benefit humanitarian causes.

Beyond her academic commitments Harris is a resident assistant in her dorm and a frequent volunteer for causes on campus and in the community. Learning to balance time and weigh options is a valuable life lesson, Harris says. “And it’s not that I have a strict plan. I’m catching the opportunities as they go by. I guess you could say I’m still testing how far I can go.”—Sarah H. Griffin
In high school, Santita Ebangwese ’19 learned to balance playing the sport she loves and her role as a student. Recruited for the Syracuse University women’s volleyball team, the Rochester, New York, native has accrued many athletic honors over the past three years: All-ACC Academic team member, 2017 Dartmouth Invitational MVP, All-ACC First Team Selection and AVCA East Region All-America Selection, among others. But Ebangwese’s academic performance is equally remarkable.

A bioengineering major in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, Ebangwese maintains academic honor roll and dean’s list status. Her senior design project is a waterproof, lightweight prosthetic for children that would allow wearers freedom of movement in water. Ebangwese is also in the Renée Crown University Honors Program, contributing to Professor Shikha Nangia’s research on claudin proteins, a crucial component of cellular barriers. She minors in French and francophone studies, and recently studied abroad in France. Ebangwese has volunteered at Northside Children’s Center through the Young Scholars Program and at the VA Hospital. She recently took a job as a medical scribe, and she serves as co-president of Syracuse University’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

In part, these achievements reflect a work ethic Ebangwese attributes to her upbringing. “I always held myself to high standards,” she says. But the variety of her activities underscores a philosophy developed over her time at SU. “Do as much as you can. Do the things you wouldn’t normally do—just give it a try.”

Ebangwese came to this perspective in response to the challenges of freshman year. Throughout high school she played volleyball and basketball, and was comfortable managing the demanding athletic and academic schedules. Being a freshman on the SU volleyball team, however, shook her confidence. “It’s hard to go from feeling like the best to being pretty much at the bottom again,” she says. For a time, she questioned whether she should stay at the University. Rather than isolate herself into an athletics-centered world, Ebangwese became fully involved in campus life. The approach paid off, helping her navigate a difficult first year and glean some valuable insights. Ebangwese explored a range of classes, attended as many events as she could, started volunteering and made friends beyond her fellow athletes. “I’ve always been an athlete, but I’m a student first,” she says. “And I’ve learned so much here. Staying at SU was the best decision I’ve made.”

Ebangwese’s own experience informs her leadership of SAAC. Her goals are to help athletes feel connected to campus and to foster opportunities for athletes and conventional students to interact. “If you play Division I sports, you’re going to have a breakdown at some point. Everyone does,” she says. “What matters is how you deal with that breakdown.” Ebangwese feels her work with SAAC can help athletes access the tools and experiences to build resilience and enjoy rich college experiences.

Looking to the future, Ebangwese doesn’t intend to pursue volleyball professionally. After her anticipated graduation this spring, she plans to remain at SU for graduate studies. From there she aspires to attend medical school, but is considering other options like pursuing a Ph.D. or starting work as an engineer. “We’ll see,” she says. “Being open to new ideas and willing to try new things has served me well.”—Sarah H. Griffin
New Image Ads Invite Students and Fans to #BEORANGE

Avid sports fans may have noticed a new look for Syracuse University’s TV ad. The ad is part of an image campaign aimed at telling the SU story in new ways, connecting with key audiences and reinforcing SU’s position as a premier institution. The campaign features inspiring student and alumni stories capturing many of the ways we can #BEORANGE—highlighting student learning, research and SU spirit via social media, online and print ads, and TV commercials on the ACC network and in selected markets.

Some of the students and alumni featured include:

**Megan Forbes ’20** is pursuing a creative path, looking to make an impact through her design work. “I plan to use my abilities to bring insights to important causes and create ways to help others,” she says. The communications design major established the nonprofit, Gone with the Wigs, with her mother after losing her grandparents to lung cancer. They organized a fashion show fundraiser which gave Forbes the opportunity to design the website and logo, plan the event and film the models.

**Yaqi Kang ’18** embraced her role as a representative of the Chinese and international student communities during her time in Syracuse. “In China, there is an old phrase, ‘Everyone is responsible for the community,’” says Kang, a graduate of the College of Arts and Sciences and Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. For Kang, that meant getting involved as a way to help improve life for international students on campus. At the Slutzker Center for International Services, she shares her knowledge and provides guidance and advice to new students.
Justyn Knight ’18 aspires to be good as gold every time he steps to the starting line for a race. “The grit I have in me now was brought out of me because of Syracuse,” says Knight, the greatest distance runner in Syracuse University cross country and track and field history. At Syracuse, Knight won two individual NCAA titles his senior year and helped lead the Orange to the 2015 national team championship. He collected 11 individual ACC titles, earned All-America honors 10 times, won the 2015 Pan Am Games Junior Cross Country title and placed ninth in the 5K at the 2017 IAAF World Championships.

Anjana “Angie” Pati ’18 has a thirst for knowledge. She’s researched diseases, trained as an EMT, traveled to multiple countries and served in student government to learn what it takes to make real change happen. Last May, Pati was awarded a Fulbright U.S. Student Program English Teaching Assistantship in South Africa that she will begin in January. “Syracuse University made me not just a student, but more of the person I wanted to become,” she says.

A lover of Syracuse traditions, alumna Kristen Unangst ’18 excelled as Otto and as a student, seizing all the opportunities before her. “Syracuse really encouraged me to be more of a learner and to be curious,” she says. A student ambassador for the admissions office and a member of the Traditions Commission, Unangst was involved in activities that praised the Syracuse experience. “You have the opportunity to do so much that you don’t ever want to leave with too many ‘would have, should have, could haves,’” she says.

See what it means to #BEORANGE at syracuse.edu/about.

Tell us all the ways you like to #BEORANGE—by using the hashtag on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, or by emailing us at syracusemagazine@syr.edu.
LIVES RED, WHITE & BLUE

Orange. It's the color of service and perseverance. The color that keeps you climbing to new heights. The color that allows you to combine experience with education to make your mark on this world. At Syracuse University, all we see is orange. Be Orange.

ROB '19
M.S. in Public Relations
E.M. in International Relations

#BEORANGE
Looking Back. Acting **Forward.**

Syracuse University marks 30 years of remembrance.
On January 18, 1989, Chancellor Melvin A. Eggers stood in Syracuse University’s Carrier Dome and made a promise. He told the grieving parents of the University’s 35 study abroad students killed in the December 21, 1988, bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, that their “sons and daughters will be remembered at Syracuse University so long as any of us shall live and so long as the University shall stand.”

At that time, Eggers announced the creation of 35 memorial scholarships, as well as the University’s intention to construct a permanent physical memorial—the Place of Remembrance—in front of the Hall of Languages.

“There will be memorials of other kinds,” Eggers stated, “in our striving to be an ever more humane institution and in our working, in the time left to us, to make our contribution to a better world.”

Over the ensuing 30 years, Syracuse University has held fast to that promise.

Although they were born nearly a decade after the disaster, 35 Remembrance Scholars currently attend Syracuse University, carrying on the legacies of the students who didn’t return to Syracuse and to their promising lives. Including the 2018-19 cohort, there are now more than 1,000 Remembrance Scholars that have accepted the charge to “Look Back and Act Forward” in memory of the students and victims who were lost—during their year as Remembrance Scholars and throughout their lives.

“Through this experience, the scholars have the opportunity to make all of these special and personal connections with the 35 students we lost and especially with their families,” said Jezrel Sabaduquia, a senior information management and technology major from New York City who was the representative voice of the Remembrance Scholars at a November 2 convocation honoring the scholars. “Any of those 35 students could have been our friends, our partners, or even ourselves. It has been an emotional journey for all of us but an immense privilege and honor to be part of.”

The Remembrance Week activities began October 28 with a candlelight vigil.

The strong bond between Lockerbie and Syracuse was highlighted in many ways throughout the week. Secretary of State for Scotland David Mundell visited campus and placed a memorial wreath at the Place of Remembrance. Oliver Mundell, member of Scottish Parliament, also visited. Five cyclists from Lockerbie, emergency service workers, and the head teacher of Lockerbie Academy completed Cycle to Syracuse—The Lockerbie Memorial Tour 2018, a 3,238-mile journey from Lockerbie to highlight the strong bond between Lockerbie and Syracuse and to raise awareness of mental health issues. The ride was conceived by Colin Dorrance, a citizen of Lockerbie who was a first responder to the disaster in 1988 as an 18-year-old police cadet. Dorrance is the father of two previous Lockerbie Scholars.

Members of the University community wore buttons representing all 270 victims of the disaster, an idea developed by Remembrance and Lockerbie Ambassador and Professor Lawrence Mason Jr. He found inspiration in the popular quote, “They say you die twice. One time when you stop breathing and a second time, a bit later on, when somebody says your name for the last time.”

“I think this is at the heart of what Remembrance is,” Mason said. “We provide a place where all 270 Pan Am
103 victims are remembered. We’ll go on saying their names, and we will act forward in their honor.”

As the 30th anniversary of the Lockerbie air disaster is commemorated, Chancellor Kent Syverud looks to the future and how the University will continue to look forward.

Time passes and change happens, but, Syverud said, remembering the past is not inconsistent with change. “If you know your past, you can make change that is consistent with the people and the values that come before,” he said. “That is what these Remembrance and Lockerbie Scholars have been doing for 30 years—understanding the people affected by an act of terror and violence and hate, thinking hard about how those people might have grown and changed over a lifetime, and paying forward those values and dreams in a new world, in a new millennium that those who were lost were not permitted to enjoy.”

Four sophomore students traveled to Lockerbie in October to engage with the residents of Lockerbie. They came back with recommendations, currently under consideration, on how to act forward to strengthen the University’s relationship with Lockerbie in new and meaningful ways.

“Syracuse University is committed to our partnership with Lockerbie and to acting forward in remembrance,” Chancellor Syverud said. “I look forward to change in two old places, Syracuse and Lockerbie. I look forward to change in remembrance of those we lost and in hope for a better future together.”

The Place of Remembrance has stood at the gateway to campus for 29 years. On November 2, it was the site of the Rose-Laying Ceremony. University leaders, Pan Am 103 families and friends, alumni and dignitaries from Scotland were among those who joined the Remembrance and Lockerbie Scholars to lay roses at the wall and remember those who were taken too soon.

Among those offering remarks that afternoon were Harriet Graham and Joseph Holland, the 2018-19 Lockerbie-Syracuse Scholars. For 29 years, two students from Lockerbie—58 in total—have come to Syracuse for a year of study and cultural exchange. During Remembrance Week, Graham and Holland represented the 11 Lockerbie residents lost in the disaster and 2002-03 Lockerbie Scholar Andrew McClune.

“It is now 30 years since the Pan Am 103 disaster, an incident that has shaped not only Lockerbie and Syracuse, but the world,” Holland said. “Since that fateful night, and with time passing at such an incredible speed, it highlights the importance of our continued remembrance of all those involved, pulling together to execute the motto of ‘looking back, acting forward’ with vigor and hope, desiring and striving for a better world without terrorism.”—Kelly Homan Rodoski

DID YOU KNOW?
Tundergarth Mains marks the site where the Pan Am 103 nose cone landed. Photo by Professor Lawrence Mason, the university’s remembrance and Lockerbie ambassador. An exhibition of more than 100 of Mason’s images is displayed in SU buildings, at the Lubin House in New York City, and the Faraday House in London. The images express the beauty, peace and hope of Lockerbie, despite the tragedy for which it is known.
An Orange Friendship Forged in Africa

Major Michael Kan ’06, of the U.S. Air Force, and Captain Alex d’Orchimont ’11, of the U.S. Army, took different paths to their branches of the Armed Forces and serve in dramatically different roles while deployed in Niger. But they share a vital connection—an Orange bond that prepared them to succeed and gives them a sense of home from half a world away. They spoke recently with Syracuse University Magazine; here are some highlights of the conversation:

What led you to join the military?

Michael Kan: I was a high school senior in Brooklyn, New York, on 9/11. That experience inspired me to join the military, and immediately after graduating from Syracuse, I commissioned in the Air Force.

Alex d’Orchimont: Unlike many in the military, I don’t have any close family who served. I was inspired to join the Army after reading a biography of Theodore Roosevelt. His willingness to embrace the strenuous life appealed to me, and I enlisted.

How did your time at Syracuse University prepare you for your job now?

MK: SU marked a character-building phase of my life. I graduated from the College of Engineering and Computer Science, and it was during long nights in Link Hall and Carnegie and Bird libraries that I learned about time management and resilience. Working as a busboy after classes taught me work ethic and responsibility.

Today I’m an environmental safety and occupational health specialist. Specifically, I’m a type of bioenvironmental engineer known as a health physicist. Here in Niger I analyze air, water and soil conditions to ensure our personnel are safe from harmful exposures. The fruits of my labors will be measured by how few military members develop service-related illnesses.

AO: I graduated from the College of Arts and Sciences, where I majored in history and political science. In 2012, I gained my commission as an officer in the Army Reserve, and this past year I became a civil affairs officer. I lead a four-person civil affairs team, coordinating with U.S. government and NGO partners in proposing and executing humanitarian projects. I’m a liaison between Airbase 201 and the city of Agadez.

It’s a fantastic place to do civil affairs work. Some significant projects include working with USAID to build three new classrooms and distribute 1,000 desks to schools in Agadez, funding the training of 50 new solar technicians, and implementing a solar-powered well.

How did you recognize one another as fellow SU alumni?

MK: One day, I was at the camp dining facility when I saw a guy in a Syracuse T-shirt. Maybe he was just a fan of ‘Cuse basketball? I had to find out. It turned out we had a lot in common: both SU graduates, both native New Yorkers, both involved in Greek life. What are the odds of two Syracuse alumni deployed in Africa on the same base at the same time?

AO: Mike and I immediately hit it off. Although our times at Syracuse didn’t overlap, we have many shared experiences. Once back stateside, we plan to attend the first possible Syracuse football game.

What does it mean for you to have another SU alumnus there with you?

AO: My four years at SU were the best in my life, because I met my wife, Rebecca Ditkoff ’11, and many lifelong friends during that time. While deployment to an austere place like Agadez can be tough, having Mike here has been a huge morale booster.

MK: I’m so grateful I met Alex here because while there’s an inherent camaraderie between military officers, our Syracuse bond makes me more comfortable sharing my daily ups and downs. It’s great to find that Orange connection around the world.
A World of Research Opportunities

Through Syracuse Abroad, students are becoming global citizens.
Students, professors and researchers from Syracuse University and Canada’s Mount Royal University, along with an international team of scientists and the porters who assisted the team, at Mt. Everest base camp in the Khumbu Valley, on May 29, 2018. The trip was a joint research expedition studying the effects of high altitude on the human body. Photo by Andrew Burton.

“Students who conduct research abroad engage with their host country’s culture, history and people, which deepens their scholarly understanding and broadens their worldview.”

― JOLYNN PARKER, CFSA DIRECTOR

Ekiawu Imariagbe ‘18 was interested in exploring public health and the inner workings of an international service organization in West Africa. Two summers ago, she traveled to Ghana, where she participated in research for the International Organization of Migration, learning about migrant issues and concerns about child trafficking.

“One of the most humbling experiences was talking to migrant individuals and listening to their stories and reasoning,” says Imariagbe, who studied health and exercise science. “We were trying to understand their perspective, how things work on their level and what they do. After listening to their stories and situations, how can you not expect someone to want better for themselves and leave their home?”

Like many undergraduates who gain global experience through Syracuse Abroad, Imariagbe enjoyed immersing herself in the local culture and also took advantage of the opportunity to do research.

Whether it’s conducting research through one of the University’s centers, a university exchange program, or a field-based world partner program such as those offered by the School for International Training, the Danish Institute for Study Abroad or SEA Semester, SU students can explore nearly every corner of the globe.

Syracuse Abroad offers 100 programs in 60 countries, as well as assistance for access to an even broader range of national and international programs. “We want to make sure we’re getting the right student on the right program,” says Louis Berends, director of academic programs for Syracuse Abroad. “Doing undergraduate research is not a linear process. There are all kinds of peaks and valleys that students will encounter, and we want to ensure students are supported before, during and after their study abroad program.”

Students may design their own original research project or tap into part of an existing project with a nongovernmental organization, an academic institution, or a faculty member. For honors students, the research often ties into a capstone thesis, the cornerstone of their professional portfolios. “We try to understand what the students want to do after they graduate,” Berends says, noting that research experience can shape career trajectories or graduate studies. “In conjunction with their faculty advisors, we can suggest things to help students experience the full scope of opportunities available,” he says. “We truly want students to engage with communities and understand the on-the-ground contextual realities that can shape their research projects.”

**ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS, BROAD VISTAS**

Often, global student research is made possible with competitive scholarship funding from national sources, such as the Fulbright U.S. Student Research grant and the Boren Awards. Syracuse University also supports undergraduate student research through the Renée Crown University Honors Program. “Taking the excellent educational foundation we provide here, students go out into the world to apply those lessons, problem solve, investigate, and research issues,” says Melissa Chessher, a professor at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications who serves on the faculty committee that selects projects for funding. “In the course of their research, they become informed and empathetic global citizens.”

Beyond internal awards offered through the honors program, all undergraduate, graduate students and alumni can access the services of the Center for Fellowship and Scholarship Advising to find information on international research funding opportunities. “Students who conduct research abroad engage with their host country’s culture, history and people, which deepens their scholarly understanding and broadens their worldview,” says Jolynn Parker, CFSA director.
TRAVELING SCHOLARS

Amber Zhane Barrow ’17
Majors: Neuroscience, biology. Minors: Chinese language, Chinese studies
Hometown: Houston, Texas
Scholarship Support: Fulbright U.S. Student Research grant, Fulbright Critical Language Award for Mandarin Chinese, Remembrance Scholar, Our Time Has Come Scholar

Barrow’s project utilizes social media and crowdsourcing to provide sex education interventions for high school and university students in China. Her research is based in Guangzhou, which has a large African immigrant population. Before her project Barrow wanted a career in global health and medicine, but she's turning her focus to minority populations in the United States.

“Fulbright gave me the chance to go abroad and conduct a research project while learning and living immersed in another culture,” she says. “When I do the research, I get to have real conversations on these topics, without societal and cultural pressures.”

Caitlin Harrison ’18
Majors: International relations and modern foreign languages
Hometown: Havertown, Pennsylvania
Scholarship Support: Coronat Scholar, Renée Crown University Honors Program

Harrison’s capstone project examines the reasons governments choose to accept or reject Syrian refugees, specifically the effect of public opinion on countries’ refugee acceptance policies. Her research focused on Jordan, Germany and the United States. She met with refugee policy experts including scholars from the Center for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan and

28 | Syracuse University Magazine
the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University; journalists from Handelsblatt and The Jordan Times; and researchers from think tanks including the Cato Institute and the West Asia-North Africa Institute.

“The Crown scholarship and funding from the Coronat Scholars Program enabled me to travel to conduct my research,” Harrison says. “Without support from these programs, I wouldn’t have been able to collect samples of refugee ‘policy expert’ opinions for my case-study countries.”

**Sean H. Reid G’19**

**Field of Study:** Ph.D. candidate, Department of Anthropology  
**Hometown:** White Lake, Michigan; Dickerson, Maryland  
**Scholarship Support:** Fulbright U.S. Student Research grant

Reid’s doctoral research examines continuity and transformation in settlement patterns, subsistence, and technology among the peoples of the coastal hinterlands of southern Ghana over the past two millennia.

During 10 months of research, he participated in a University of Ghana field school directed by Benjamin Kankpeyeng G’96, G’03. Through the school, 20 Ghanaian archaeology students joined them in a remote northwestern part of the country to spend several weeks excavating an Iron Age site.

“One of the exciting things about working in Africa is the limited amount of archaeological research undertaken and the potential archaeology brings to understanding the past,” Reid says. “International research provides invaluable skills for all students in language and cultural competence and opens one’s eyes to the complex forces shaping the world around us.”
HIGH ALTITUDE HEALTH STUDY
An intrepid group of students joined in a Syracuse Abroad journey to the top of the world last spring. They were participants in the Mount Everest Base Camp Trek: The Human Response to High Altitude, a three week, three credit course and full fledged research expedition in Nepal led by School of Education exercise science professor Tom Brutsaert and Falk College sport management professor Rick Burton '80.
Designed for undergraduate and graduate students interested in human environmental physiology, mountaineering and adventure, the course brought together the Syracuse contingent with high altitude experts and research teams from Mount Royal University in Canada, Mid Sweden University and the University of Michigan.
The Syracuse study, one of four conducted during the trip, explored cognitive function at altitude. The study was led by Wes Lefferts G’18, an exercise science doctoral graduate (now a research fellow at the University of Illinois, Chicago), and Ph.D. candidates Jacob Deblois and Taylor Harman. Pre departure testing measured hypoxia-sensitivity and cognitive function. Various cognitive, brain blood flow and other measurements continued all the way to Everest base camp at almost 18,000 feet above sea level.
The expedition comprised a group of 29 trekkers, 10 guides and porters, and six to eight yaks all moving upward together toward the base of the world’s highest peak. Throughout their adventure, participants posted a daily blog, viewable at rhburton.expressions.syr.edu.
Enriched by the Maxwell Experience

By Khem Raj Sedhai

I was born and raised in a remote village of the Dhading District of Nepal, where I had to walk for about five hours from my village to the nearest town to see vehicles. The first time I saw motor vehicles I was 13. Back then, even as a student who wanted to know more about the world, I never imagined I would one day study at a great place like the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

While studying for a bachelor of laws degree in Nepal, I decided to go to a top-ranked school in the U.S. for further education in the fields of international relations and diplomacy. I attended events hosted by the U.S. Educational Foundation in Nepal and joined the Library of Congress in the U.S. Embassy Nepal. Professor Pravakar Adhikari, my teacher in the master of laws program at the Nepal Law Campus, Tribhuvan University, made a key introduction that initiated my journey to the Maxwell School—a new name for me at that time. While accepting Maxwell’s offer of admission, I questioned whether I made the correct decision because I also received generous offers from other schools. Now, I can proudly say I made the best decision. I consider myself fortunate that Maxwell gave me the opportunity to study at a prestigious school, with a scholarship.

While I have always been a good student, reaching the Maxwell School was a big step of success for me. Once I started classes and got involved, I better understood the school’s popularity. Academic excellence, a welcoming environment, experienced faculty, and a supportive and highly dedicated career services team are the key features that impressed me. I have a fresh memory of the initial challenges I faced as an international student with language and other adjustments, but that phase did not last long because of the cooperative environment created by the Maxwell family and the Slutzker Center for International Services.

Maxwell has provided me a great platform for enhancing my career perspectives. During my first semester, I participated in different events and workshops that helped me develop a strong understanding of the U.S. education system and boosted my confidence for taking on responsibility as a member of the University Senate. At the same time, I was elected a senator of the Graduate Student Organization, and an executive member of the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS). Being associated with these organizations, I have advanced my communication, negotiation, public relations and leadership skills through training programs, workshops and various international conferences. As part of NAGPS Legislative Action Days, I participated in meetings in Senate offices on Capitol Hill—an amazing experience. My Maxwell studies have also expanded on my previous knowledge, skills and experiences gained through two other graduate degrees (master of laws and master of education) and 20 years of professional work.

I am optimistic that my Maxwell education will enrich my future career in human rights, diplomacy, public relations and public policy, which are areas of great interest for me. It has also provided value to my diverse academic and professional experiences. I am grateful to the entire Maxwell community and Syracuse University for the awesome teaching and learning experiences and international exposure.

Khem Raj Sedhai G’19 is working on a master’s degree in international relations at the Maxwell School.
There’s No Place Like ’Cuse

Nearly 2,600 alumni and friends came home to campus October 18-21 for Orange Central, Syracuse University’s annual homecoming and reunion weekend. The Classes of 1958, 1968, 1974, 1993 and 2008 celebrated special milestone reunions while groups like Marching Band, Syracuse Abroad, WAER, U100 and others held alumni gatherings.

On Friday evening, hundreds attended the University’s inaugural Alumni Awards Celebration, a ceremony honoring the winners of the 2018 Generation Orange, Eggers, and Arents Awards, recognizing some of SU’s most accomplished alumni. This was the first time SU honored all award winners in a single ceremony. On Saturday, the Orange football team beat North Carolina in double overtime inside the Carrier Dome, providing another of the weekend’s memorable highlights.

Orange Central 2019 will celebrate milestone reunions for the Classes of 1959, 1969, 1975, 1984, 1994 and 2009. If you’re from one of those classes and interested in joining your reunion committee, contact Kate Ludwig in the Office of Alumni Engagement at kludwig@syr.edu or 315.443.3249. The dates for Orange Central will be announced in early 2019.

1. SU’s Class of 1958 poses for its 60th Reunion photo.

2. Banners on Hendricks Chapel welcome alumni to campus for Orange Central.

3. Winners of the 2018 Generation Orange, Eggers and Arents Awards pose with Chancellor Kent Syverud and SUAA President Tracy Barash ’89 after Friday evening’s ceremony. Award winners included: Arents: Kevin Bell ’74, Dr. Sharon Brangman ’77, Emme ’85, Joseph Strasser ’53, G’58 and Abdallah Yabroudi ’78, G’79 Eggers: Larry Bashe ’66, G’68, Helen Lefkowitz ’60 and Fred Silverman ’58 Generation Orange: Evin Floyd Robinson ’12, G’14 and Jessica Santana ’11, G’13.

4. 2018 Arents Award winner Emme ’85 grabs a selfie during SU’s Alumni Awards Celebration.

5. Orange fans enjoy a pregame performance by the Marching Band during the Orange Central Tailgate.
6. Otto joins friends from the Class of 2008 during Friday’s ’Cuse Cookout on the Quad.

7. Orange Central offers fun for the whole family.

8. Otto uses his scooter to pace runners on the Einhorn Family Walk during Sunday morning’s Race to Remember.
With Boost the ’Cuse II Mission, Syracuse Soars!

“Flat Otto” landed in mailboxes all over the globe in October in preparation for Boost the ’Cuse II, Syracuse University’s second annual 24-hour day of giving on October 25. The day concluded with 4,939 donors (including 1,209 first-time donors) raising over $1.76 million for Syracuse University. The single largest day of fundraising in SU history, gifts came from all 50 states and 16 countries.

During the first Boost the ’Cuse giving day in 2017, 3,997 donors raised more than $1.7 million for Syracuse University, including a $500,000 gift from Syracuse University Life Trustee Daniel D’Aniello ’68 and his wife, Gayle.

“Boost the ’Cuse II was an extraordinary day,” said David Wishart ’07, assistant vice president of philanthropic engagement. “We saw the Syracuse University community come together in a way we never have before. Watching all of the photos of Otto being shared from around the world, and knowing how much was made possible thanks to the generosity of our donors was truly inspiring. We’re especially thankful that our students and young alumni were so enthusiastic about the effort!”

The Generation Orange Leadership Council was the first board at Syracuse University to reach 100 percent participation from its members. On the Quad, members of the Forever Orange Student Alumni Council inspired students, faculty and staff to participate in activities throughout the day—from the Cash Grab Challenge to selfies with Pete Sala, SU’s vice president and chief facilities officer.

Gifts made by school, college and unit boards added up to over $600,000 in challenge funds available on that day. Donors who supported specific areas unlocked challenge funds that went toward scholarships, deans’ initiatives and the Annual Fund.

Across the country, several of Syracuse University’s alumni clubs hosted gatherings to celebrate alumni philanthropy and share “I Gave!” stickers with all who joined the celebrations. Social media provided another opportunity for participation; more than 1,600 tweets included the #BoostCuse hashtag.

The power of Orange is inspiring! Watch our thank you video at mission.syr.edu.

—Kim Infanti
Central after last seeing each other since the day of their graduation 50 years ago. And tell you about Patricia reunion.

the more than 2,500 alumni who came home to Syracuse Mitchell ’02—three generations of Orange who celebrated Bilotta Button ’58, Sally Mitchell ’82, G’83, and Elizabeth Awards Celebration and creating a new tradition of a 44th for Orange Central homecoming and reunion. It means together during the weekend.

to their alma mater.

240,000 SU alumni worldwide. But, what does that mean?

First-ever all-alumni survey. As plans for everything from our Orange family who helped Syracuse University soar during our Boost the ’Cuse II 24-hour day of giving. I took pride in watching alumni around the world share their stories of Otto the Astronaut and generously give back to their alma mater.

Finally, it means working to make your experiences even better. In early 2019, Syracuse University will release its first-ever all-alumni survey. As plans for everything from tailgates to our Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2020 take shape, we want to incorporate your feedback to help shape programs moving forward. Alumni engagement is much broader than attending a game watch where you live; it’s about taking advantage of professional development opportunities, providing internships for students, and choosing the ways that best suit you to remain connected with SU. I hope you’ll complete the survey when it arrives in your inbox. Thank you in advance for participating.

I’ve never felt more proud to be a Syracuse University alumna. I look forward to hearing more of your stories and learning how we can engage and serve as many of our wonderful alumni as possible.

GO ORANGE!

Tracy Barash ’89
President, Syracuse University Alumni Association

40s

Olindo Salanger ’47 (NUR) of Camillus, N.Y., was honored with a higher education scholarship established in her name. The Dolores Salanger Fund for Advanced Nursing Education and Research was established by the UHS health care system foundation upon the retirement of her son, Matthew, who stepped down as CEO at the end of 2017. The fund, which will assist UHS nursing employees who pursue master’s and doctoral level nursing degrees, recognizes Salanger’s many contributions to nursing care in the Syracuse area, including work at local hospitals, physician practices, the Onondaga County public safety department, and the WIC Program. She has three grandchildren and three sons-in-law who are alumni: Maeve ’14, Nora G’16, and Shane Salanger ’17; Tom Tamayo G’76, Richard Lowery ’82, and Michael Barrett ESF ’87.

Abraham Passman ’49 (A&S), age 93, who was a school teacher for 29 years in New York City, writes: “I was in the first wave at Normandy. The only one in my landing craft to reach the end of the beach. At Syracuse, I discovered the Atlantic magazine that became my bible. Classical music in the library. I have learned to ski, play tennis, and a love for ballet and also theater. Thanks Syracuse.”

50s

Jay Cooper ’51 (NEW) is the founder of Professional Press, a book publishing company he established more than 30 years ago in Chapel Hill, N.C. He recently gathered with several other Orange alumni for a reunion in the Chapel Hill area.

Philip Spevak ’51 (A&S) joined composer and pianist Terry Lee Nichols and vocalist Rebekah Eden for an event celebrating the release of their CD, We Have Only Come to Dream: A Resonance of Human Migration to the Americas, in Coral Gables, Fla., in February. The album’s liner notes feature Spevak’s poetry, which was commissioned for the collaborative project.

Donald F. Megnin ’54 (A&S), G’65 (MAX), professor emeritus for international politics at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, has published several books in his retirement years: a trilogy of novels The Security of Silence, A Conspiracy of Silence, and The Struggle to Survive; as well as A Farm Boy Sees the World, Moments in Time: A Memoir; A Medley of Short Stories; Glimpses of the Past: Letters from Overseas; Questions We Need to Ask Ourselves; And What’s So Funny?, Story of Two Boys: One from 2001 Years Ago and the Other from 1849; Sermons for the Separated; and Growing Up on a Farm.

Joan Greene Aufderhar ’57 (A&S) and Bob Aufderhar ’57 (WSM) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on March 22, 2018. They live in Fair Haven, N.J.

Jacqueline St. John ’58 (A&S), G’64, professor emeritus of history at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), was featured in the UNO Service Learning Academy and Durham Museum exhibition, Women in Omaha: A Biographical Sketch of Persistence through History, honored for “years of leadership, contributions to the city of Omaha, and [her] legacy as an advocate and role model for future generations.”

Hall Groat Sr. ’59 (VPA), an award-winning impressionist painter from Manlius, N.Y., had a solo exhibition at the new Community Library of DeWitt and Jamesville (N.Y.) in April (hallgroot.com). The exhibition featured large oil works based on Green Lakes State Park and an impression of Plymouth Rock, reimagined at a location in the woods near the ocean at Plymouth, Mass., due to tides and coastal storms.

60s


Richard Colyer ’64, G’65 (A&S), a retired English teacher, wrote The Dash Between (Page Publishing, 2017), an autobiography about small-town life in Schoharie, N.Y., from the early 1940s to the present.

Jill Moss Greenberg ’64 (EDU) is a 2018 National Women’s History Project Honoree, recognized as a national leader in educational equity and multicultural education and a trailblazer in addressing the intersection of women’s rights and history with issues of race, national origin, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation,
gender identity, homelessness, and socioeconomic status.

Jan Hillegas ’64 (A&S) of Jackson, Miss., is a journalist and volunteer archivist of the Mississippi civil rights and later movements. She is co-editor of the Works Progress Administration narratives of Mississippi ex-slaves, and she researches family histories and documents obscured in the state. To learn more about her efforts to maintain the historical collection and establish a resource center for current movements, email her at conversationsms@hotmail.com.

Catherine Spencer Henn G’65 (NEW) is owner and CEO of Better Power Inc. in Rochester, N.Y., which received certification from New York State as a Woman-Owned Business Enterprise in January. For the past 17 years, the company has provided backup generators and related equipment to government agencies in municipalities, and nonprofit organizations on state contract, and has also served local private contractors and enterprises (www.betterpower.us).

James A. Jacobs ’65 (A&S), G’66 (NEW), G74 (MAX), professor emeritus of journalism and English at Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hill, Calif., published the third novel in his Daniel Mendoza series, No Reprieve (Palo Verde Books), set in Mexico 1971. His first, Transgressions (2010), is a coming-of-age novel set in Syracuse. His second, Days of the Dead (2015), is set in Mexico 1968. Both Mexico novels are historical thrillers that take place during Mexico’s “dirty war.”

Raymond C. Miller G’66 (MAX), professor emeritus of political economy at San Francisco State University, wrote International Political Economy: Contrasting World Views, Second Edition (Routledge), a textbook for students of international political economy, economics, political science, and global governance.

Jim Bruen ’67 (WSM) and his wife, Jane Plitt, received the Leadership Spirit Award from the Manatee Community Foundation in Bradenton, Fla., in March.

Roland Van Deusen ’67 (A&S/MAX), G75 (SWK), a U.S. Navy veteran, had his veteran outreach video, To Veterans with Invisible Wounds, published in Combat Stress magazine in March.

James McVoy’68 (VPA) wrote Fifty Birds in Fifty States (CreateSpace) about his 13-year quest with his wife, Susan, to identify at least 50 different species of birds in each state.

Jerry Ratchford G’68, G’77 (ECS) of Matthews, N.C., was recognized by Charlotte SCORE with the chapter’s Emeritus Membership Award for his more than 18 years of volunteer service and dedication to the nonprofit group that helps small businesses get started. Now retired, Ratchford worked with IBM for more than 30 years and also taught at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte for 18 years.

Doug Brode G’69 (A&S) was inducted into the Patchogue-Medford school district hall of fame in his hometown of Patchogue, N.Y., in April, one of 10 graduates to be so honored. A former Syracuse-area movie critic and the author of more than 50 books, he was also featured in The Good Life: Central New York magazine in March.

Ray Brown ’69 (A&S) received an Edgar Allan Poe Silver Flask Award from former Cerritos High School, Calif., students at a dinner in his honor. Lauded for his creative teaching methods, Brown is well known for enactments of Poe in classroom and theater settings that have made him a local celebrity.

Margaret Dunkle ’69 (A&S) is a 2018 National Women’s History Project Honoree, recognized for her achievements on behalf of equal opportunity for women, including her leadership role in implementing Title IX, the 1972 landmark legislation on women’s educational equity.

Lance Kraemer ’70 (ARC) launched the 40th anniversary of founding his award-winning architectural firm this year.


Joel S. Policher ’70 (A&S), senior vice president of medical affairs at VITAS Healthcare, received the Josefina B. Magno Distinguished Hospice Physician Award from the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. The award recognizes physicians who provide high-quality services, create innovative programs, and demonstrate exemplary dedication to the practice of palliative medicine in a hospice setting.

Geoffrey Ries ’70 (A&S) is chairman of the board of trustees at Ambler Savings Bank in Ambler, Pa. He is executive vice president at Gessner Products, a plastics manufacturing company, and a longtime member of the Ambler business community, who has also served as president of the Rotary Club of Ambler and chairman of the board of the Ambler Area YMCA.

Norman Shulman G’71 (EDU) wrote The Inspiration of an American Fighter Pilot: In the Spirit of the Maccabees (Texas Tech University Press), which draws on letters referencing Jewish military history that he used to inspire his spiritually isolated son to a decorated career as an F-16 combat pilot. It is part memoir, religious history, military history, and professional guide for parents. Shulman is a psychologist in private practice in Lubbock, Texas.

David Noonan L’72 (LAW), a partner with the law firm Noonan Noonan copsy & Benach in San Diego, received a 2018 Best Lawyers in America distinction in the categories of Commercial Litigation, Bet-the-Company Litigation and Legal Malpractice Law—Defendants. Notably, he was named 2019 Lawyer of the Year—Bet-the-Company Litigation for San Diego. It’s the fourth time he was honored as Lawyer of the Year in one of those two categories.

Alan Gross’73 (A&S/NEW), an airship aficionado and collector of all things related to blimps and dirigibles, donated his collection of historic airship materials to the University of Akron (Ohio) Archival Services.

Lise Haines ’73 (A&S) wrote When We Disappear (Un bridal Books), her fourth novel, described as a “gorgeous meditation on the wild complexities of family life.” She is senior writer in residence at Emerson College.

Beth Gigante Klingenstein ’73 (VPA) retired in January after a 45-year career dedicated to the arts. Her career included writing two books on piano pedagogy, performing numerous collaborative and solo recitals, publishing more than 40 articles, and delivering more than 100 presentations on the arts. She taught for 20 years at Valley City State University in North Dakota, where she earned a Ph.D. in education leadership and was a full professor and department chair. Her final position before retiring was executive director of the North Dakota Council on the Arts.

Ned Tillman G73 (A&S) wrote the novel The Big Melt (South Branch Press), a coming-of-age story about two high school seniors who face a series of climate catastrophes following their graduation. He is also the author of the award-winning books The Chesapeake Watershed: A Sense of Place and a Call to Action.

Ronni S. Diamondstein '74 (EDU) is a member of the board of trustees of the Chappaqua (N.Y.) Library and serves on the board of directors of the New Castle Community Media Center, a nonprofit community media facility. She is a writer and retired teacher and school library media specialist.

Jim Gallucci '75, G'76 (VPA), a sculptor residing in Greensboro, N.C., was one of three SU alumni chosen for a nationally juried sculpture exhibition in Cornelius, N.C., titled Beyond Walls.

Joanne Romanow '75 (FALK), a partner at the Boston law firm Casner & Edwards, was selected for inclusion in the 2019 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for her work in family law.

John Follis '76 (VPA) directed and produced the film Leaving God, an exploration of the shift in the United States away from traditional religion, especially among millennials. The film won a First Time Filmmaker Award at the 2017 Hollywood International Documentary Film Festival.

Jeffrey Paine '76 (ARC) is founding principal of Duda-Paine Architects in Durham, N.C. A frequent public speaker at graduate programs in architecture, real estate development, and business and professional forums, he recently completed a four-week research project on the history, implications and influences of public spaces in architecture at the American Academy in Rome.

Glenn Showalter G'76 (EDU) is an aerial photographer, aviation consultant, and licensed commercial pilot.

Paul Czepiga '77 (WSM), L'84 (LAW) was reappointed to the advisory council of the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants for 2018-19 serving as chair of the trust, estate and gift taxation interest group. He is a principal in the law firm of Czepiga Daly Pope & Perri.

Bradley Myerson '77 (A&S), an attorney from Manchester Center, Vt., was selected for inclusion in the 2019 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for his work in criminal defense. It’s the 13th year he’s been included in the publication.

Julie Singer Scanlan '78 (NEW) was recognized as Officer of the Order of Australia, AO. The Order of Australia is the preeminent means by which Australia recognizes the outstanding and meritorious service of its citizens. A dual citizen of the U.S. and Australia, she was cited for “distinguished service to Australia-American relations through the promotion and facilitation of dialogue and information exchange across government, business and community sectors.” Scanlan and her husband, Phil Scanlan, established the Australian American Leadership Dialogue, an NGO that has been described as “the most significant exercise in private diplomacy ever to come out of Australia.”

Mark Grimm G'79 (NEW), Albany County legislator, is chair of the Albany County Legislature personnel committee and vice chair of the finance committee.

Russell Hamer G'79 (ECS) is an affiliate research professor in the psychology department at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton who has also taught Cuban Salsa dance for more than 25 years. His new research focus on the neuroscientific basis of rhythm grew out of his love for Afro-Cuban music and dance.

Anthony Manning '80 (ECS) is partner and chief operating officer at Warner Construction Consultants in Rockville, Md.

Robert Seidman G'80 (ECS), professor emeritus at Southern New Hampshire University, wrote Saving Higher Education: The Integrated, Competency-Based Three-Year Bachelor’s Degree Program (Wiley).

Kevin Young '80 (A&S/MAX) of the Cleveland office of law firm Tucker Ellis was honored by Chambers USA 2018 as a recognized practitioner in the litigation: general commercial field in Ohio.

Milton Cohen G'81 (A&S) wrote The Pull of Politics: Steinbeck, Wright, Hemingway, and the Left in the Late 1930s (University of Missouri Press).

Lisa Chipolone Romeo '81 (NEW) wrote Starting with Goodbye: A Daughter’s Memoir of Love after Loss (University of Nevada Press). A widely published nonfiction writer and former equestrian journalist, she is part of the founding faculty in the Bay Path University M.F.A. program and also works as a manuscript editor and consultant. She lives in New Jersey with her husband and sons.

Jane Passantino '82 (NEW) is vice president of marketing for the health care division of Academic Partnerships, a leading online service provider for higher education.

A. Brian Zampler G’82 (VPA) is a Marianist brother, artist and social media archivist. His needle-felted alphabet work was published on the cover and in an inside spread of the Winter 2018 annual juried issue of Letter Arts Review, an international calligraphy journal.

Sergio Pereira Cadena '83 (WSM) was appointed to the board of trustees of the Illinois Math and Science Academy in Aurora, Ill. He is president of Quill.com in Lincolnshire, Ill.

Stephanie Kloos Donoghue G’83 (NEW) celebrated the 30th anniversary of her company, S. Kloos Communications Inc., in October. Her team combines its expertise in design, editing and business management to help clients market to doctors and other health care professionals. She also consults with small businesses at various stages of startup and growth with a focus on feasibility and marketing, and she teaches aspiring entrepreneurs as an adjunct assistant professor at Pace University’s Lubin School of Business.

Grant A. Johnson '83 (NEW) was honored with a 2018 Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Drama Series Directing Team for the NBC daytime drama Days of Our Lives. This is his third Daytime Emmy, having won in 1999 and 2004 for his work on Sunset Beach (NBC) and General Hospital (ABC).

A. Stevens Krug '83 (ARC), a West Chester, Pa., architect who is well known for his work in sustainable design, was named a Fellow of the Association of Energy Engineers, recognized for significant contributions to the energy management and alternative energy industry.

May Leong '83 (A&S/MAX) is a deputy director of the Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco.

Mary Schalk '83 (VPA), an award-winning interior designer and lifelong resident of Central New York, is a licensed real estate salesperson with HUNT Real Estate ERA.

Penelope Shure '83 (FALK) is founder of Pilates for Every Body, an Albany, N.Y.-based studio offering Pilates workshops and private sessions for people coping with such issues as bone and joint damage, back pain, foot issues, pelvic floor weaknesses, and scoliosis. She suffers from osteoporosis and alters her Pilates workouts to lower the risk of bone fractures.

Bruce Adams G'84 (NEW) is director of communications at the Wesley Foundation at the University of Illinois.

Tony Carnesi '84 (WSM), a CPA and business consultant, and Brian Gorman '71 (A&S), an International Coach Federation certified professional coach, met at an SU alumni event in New York City. They joined forces to found The Do-Be Associates, a consulting and coaching service that helps business owners in the New York metro area achieve success.

Harris Nydick '84 (NEW/WSM) co-wrote Common Financial Sense (Lioncrest Publishing), a practical guide for readers to make the most of their investment plans for retirement.


Melanie Reim G'84 (VPA), acting associate dean of the School of Art and Design at the Fashion Institute of Technology, was named the 2018 Distinguished Educator in the Arts by the Society of Illustrators in New York City.

Robert Spence G'84 (VPA), associate professor of music and director of instrumental studies at Elizabethtown College, was awarded the school’s 2017-18 Kreider Prize for Teaching Excellence. He presented a lecture sponsored by the college and the Kreider Prize Foundation. Spence also recently finished his term as immediate past president of the Pennsylvania Collegiate Bandmasters Association.

George Styk '84 (ECS) is director of quality at SRC Inc., a not-for-profit research and development company in Syracuse.

Jon L. Dusse G'85 (A&S) is an eye physician and surgeon with Eye Care & Vision Associates in Williamsville, N.Y., specializing in diabetic eye care, cataract surgery, and oculoplastics.
Saila Kariat ’85, G’88, G’90 (ECS) wrote and directed The Valley, a film released in 2017 about an immigrant entrepreneur working in high-tech who is devastated by his daughter’s suicide and seeks answers to his lingering questions. Mindi Jacobs Messer ’85 (A&S) earned an M.S. degree in clinical and translational science at Georgetown University in May. She is a Democratic member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives, and was a candidate in the 2018 Democratic primary for New Hampshire’s 1st Congressional District seat. Noted for her legislative and advocacy work on cancer clusters in New Hampshire, she has run an environmental consulting business for 20 years.

Sue Prant ’85 (A&S/VPA) is executive director of Community Cycles in Boulder, Colo., a bicycle advocacy and community bike shop. The nonprofit organization is midway through an ambitious capital campaign and will move to a new facility in 2019.

Enrique Soler-Armstrong ’85 (A&S/MAX), founder and chief creative officer at Oneighty Agency, one of the most awarded and successful advertising agencies in Puerto Rico, announces the company’s new alliance with the FCB Global Network.

Dan Maxwell ’86 (WSM), associate vice president for student affairs at the University of Houston, was recognized by NASPA, the professional association for student affairs administrators in higher education, with the 2018 AVP/SLSA Student Affairs Professional Award for NASPA Region III.

Alan Tarter ’86 (WSM), managing partner of Tarter Krinsky & Drogin in New York City, was featured in the New York Law Journal in an article titled “Tarter Krinsky & Drogin: How to Stay True to Entrepreneurial Roots,” part of a Q&A series with managing partners at top mid-size law firms.

Maureen Greene James ’87 (VPA) is the North America leader of diversity and leadership development with Cognizant Technology Solutions.

Shari Simmans-Bolouri ’87 (A&S/MAX) is the executive director of the West Volusia (Fla.) Regional Chamber of Commerce. She will continue her responsibilities as chief of staff to former Virginia governor Jim Gilmore on a part-time basis.

Michael Dooling G’88 (VPA) of Audubon, N.J., is an illustrator and author of children’s books known for his dramatic and historically accurate illustrations. He is the illustrator of 65 books and author of five, including George Washington’s Army and Me, which is currently being developed into a film by 1663 Media Arts. He was also selected to a top 10 list of great author visits by the Pennsylvania School Library Association.

Paul E. Jensen ’88 (ECS/A&S/MAX) is dean of Drexel University’s LeBow College of Business in Philadelphia.

Kris LeBoutillier ’88 (NEW) celebrates his fifth anniversary as the Asia Pacific content director at Visa Worldwide in Singapore. Previously a photographer who worked with National Geographic Traveler and Getty Images, he has lived in Asia for more than 20 years. He is also pursuing a master’s degree in digital communication at Johns Hopkins.

Kevin McNamara ’88 (NEW/WSM) is a sports columnist for the Providence Journal, where he has covered sports since 1988. In February, he was inducted into the Words Unlimited Hall of Fame, a 50-year-old organization for sportswriters and broadcasters in Rhode Island.


Mark Sardenga ’89 (ARC) is a principal at Elkus Manfredi Architects, a Boston-based multidisciplinary global design firm that he joined in 2004.

Amy Shirley ’89 (A&S) is assistant vice president of National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. in Williamsville, N.Y., responsible for the human resources and payroll departments for the regulated subsidiaries in New York and Pennsylvania. She joined the company in 1991 as a management trainee.

Doug Brunck G’90 (NEW) wrote Forty Minutes to Glory: Inside the Kentucky Wildcats’ 1978 Championship Season (The University Press of Kentucky).

Ken Goldstein ’90 (VPA), an Emmy Award-winning director and popular recording and performing artist, directed The Song of Bethlehem, a documentary telling the story of a song he wrote as an SU student in the late 1980s juxtaposed against the death and rebirth of the town of Bethlehem, Pa., as one of the world’s great art support systems.

Bob Hocking ’90 (A&S), a writer and photographer whose In My Backpack website celebrated its 15th anniversary in March (inmybackpack.com), wrote his 10th book, A Parkside View: Volumes 1 & 2, a collection of 45 nonfiction essays.

Richard Long ’90 (NEW/WSM) is the global manager of customer loyalty and customer relationship management at McDonald’s in Chicago.

Scott Milliken ’90 (A&S) is the CEO of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Paterson, N.J.

Ruperto Arvelo G’91 (ARC) is principal at Arvelo Architecture and Design, a studio with offices in New York City, Miami and Puerto Rico. He is also a cofounder of Tertulia Latina, an organization that promotes collaborations among Latino artists and supports their work.

Alan Block ’91 (WSM) is co-founder of Back House Entertainment Advisors, specializing in services for companies in the entertainment industry (www.backhouseent.com).

Leigh Cohen ’91 (WSM), a financial advisor with Merrill Lynch’s private banking and investment group in New York City, was named to Barron’s magazine’s list of America’s Top 100 Financial Advisors for 2017. He was also named to top financial advisor lists in 2017 by the Financial Times and Forbes.

Meghan Stengel Gardner ’91 (VPA), founder and CEO of Guard Up Family Swordsmanship & NERF in Burlington, Mass., co-created The Stem Initiative, a new organization that will open a series of STEM and story-based summer camps throughout Asia. The first location opens this summer at Seoul National University and the second, a residential camp, is planned for Sejong University.

Mark A. Sullivan ’91, G’93 (ARC) is a partner with Joshua Zinder Architecture + Design (JZA+D), the Princeton-based integrated design firm founded by classmate Joshua Zinder ’91 (ARC).

Robin Maria Valeri G’91, G’94 (A&S), a professor of psychology at St. Bonaventure University, is co-author with Kevin Borgeson of Hate Crimes: Typology, Motivations, and Victims (Carolina Academic Press). The book offers a fresh perspective on the study of hate crimes.

Jeffrey K. Walker G’91 (MAX) of Williamsburg, Va., wrote Truly Are the Free (Ballybur Publishing, 2017), the second historical novel in his World War I trilogy, Sweet Wine of Youth, which draws on his experiences as a military officer, legal historian, and international attorney.

John Reffue G’92 (VPA) is chair of the Department of Communications and Humanities at the Dale Mabry Campus of Hillsborough Community College (HCC) in Tampa, Fla.

Arthur Vaughn G’92 (A&S/MAX) is associate vice president for business and finance at Morehouse College in Atlanta.

Laura Esther Wolfsion G’92 (NEW) wrote For Single Mothers Working as Train Conductors (University of Iowa Press), recipient of the 2017 Iowa Prize for Literary Nonfiction. In her literary debut, she draws on years of immersion in the Russian and French languages; her struggles to gain a basic understanding of Judaism, its history, and her place in it; and her search for a form to hold the stories that emerge from what she has lived, observed, overheard, and misremembered.

Amy Hart ’93 (VPA), a sculptor residing in Charlotte, N.C., was one of three SU alumni chosen for a nationally juried sculpture exhibition in Cornelius, N.C., titled Beyond Wolls.

Patrick Mifsud ’93 (A&S/MAX), a colonel in the U.S. Army serving as a foreign area officer, graduated from the U.S. Army War College resident program. In addition to completing requirements for the Army’s Senior Service College, he received a master of strategic studies degree. His next assignment is as the senior defense official/defense attache, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Ramzi Nuwayhid ’93 (IST), a private wealth advisor with Merrill Lynch in Boston, was named to the 2018 Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisors list. He lives in Wellesley, Mass., with his family, where he is active in his community and serves as a board member of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Denise Pearman ’93 (A&S/MAX/NEW), a 25-year veteran of the investment industry, is director of institutional sales at Argent Capital Management in Clayton, Mo.

Kurt T. Steinberg ’93 (A&S/MAX), G’94 (MAX) became the 10th president of the Montserrat College of Art in Beverly, Mass., in July.

Scott Froschauer ’94 (A&S), an artist residing in Sun Valley, Calif., was one of three SU alumni chosen for a nation-
ally juried sculpture exhibition in Cornelius, N.C., titled Beyond Walls.

Curtis John Mitchell ’94 (A&S) wrote “You’ve Got To Get In to Get Out: How Facing My Fears Has Helped Me Heal,” an article published in April in Elephant Journal, an online publication that features videos, blogs, and articles about living mindfully.

Susan Murphy ’94 (NEW), vice president of Coyne Public Relations in Parsippany, N.J., was named a Wonder Woman in PR by Women in Toys, Licensing & Entertainment.

Rhonda Maco L’95 (LAW) is vice chair of the board of trustees of MercyFirst, a nonprofit human services agency in Syosset, N.Y., that provides an integrated continuum of care for more than 4,000 traumatized and neglected children, teenagers, and their families at 15 sites throughout Brooklyn, Queens, and Nassau and Suffolk counties. She has been a MercyFirst board member since 2012, and was elected vice chair in June. Along with her volunteer service to youth, Maco is an attorney whose legal expertise includes business formation, real estate, family planning, and general litigation.

David Mohl ’95 (WSM), L’98 (LAW) is a principal with the national law firm Jackson Lewis P.C. in its Atlanta office. He specializes in employment and labor law matters.

Christian Velardi ’95 (NEW) is director of digital engagement and communications in the Syracuse University Office of Alumni Engagement.

Bailey Wood Jr. ’95 (A&S/MAX) is vice president of communications, public relations, and marketing for the International Dairy Foods Association in Washington, D.C. He lives with his wife, Amanda, and two daughters in Bethesda, Md.

Amy Striem ’96 (A&S/MAX/NEW) is executive director of the Rock and Roll Playhouse in Brooklyn, N.Y., bringing rock-based music education to young children and their families in the form of interactive live concert experience.

Tara Gelsomino ’97 (A&S/NEW) launched One Track Literary Agency Inc., a boutique editorial agency based in Providence, R.I., representing authors of commercial fiction (OneTrackLiterary.com).

Charlie Bush G’98 (MA) is city manager in Sequim, Wash., was awarded a fellowship to the Harvard Senior Executive program by the International City/County Management Association.

Jared Lusk L’98 (LAW), an attorney with Nixon Peabody law firm, was recognized in the 2018 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business as a leader in real estate for Upstate New York.

Sahara Pynes ’98 (NEW) is a partner at Fox Rothschild law firm.

Andrea Cale ’99 (NEW) wrote the novel The Corn Husk Experiment (Morgan James Publishing), a tale of five strangers whose lives collide at a football stadium with unexpected results. In advance of the novel, she created The Good News Experiment, a non-fiction spinoff that highlights the work of community innovators with feature stories that she runs on her blog, posts on social media, and shares in press releases to the honorers’ local newspapers.

Tania Lloyd Robinson ’99 (IST) received the 2017-18 Delta of the Year Award from the Marietta-Roswell Alumnae chapter (Atlanta area) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority for her community service work and leadership in the chapter.

00s

Tom Howard ’00 (IST) is a partner at Cumberland Consulting Group, a health care consulting and services firm in Nashville, Tenn.

Gautam Khattra ’00, G’01 (ECSC) has lived in Hong Kong since 2010. He is the chief information officer of Artesyn Embedded Technologies.

Kirsten Fredsall Piechota ’00 (NEW) is communications director for the Connecticut Society of Certified Public Accountants. She lives in Connecticut with her husband, Matthew Piechota ’00 (NEW/WSM), and two children.

Trent Sutton G’00 (MAX), an attorney at Littler in the law firm’s Rochester, N.Y. office, was recognized in the 2018 Who’s Who Legal: Labour, Employment & Benefits Guide.

Rachel Park Hurt ’03 (A&S/MAX), G’04 (MAX) of Knoxville, Tenn., received a 2018 Alumni Promise Award from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The award recognizes alumni under 40 who have demonstrated distinctive achievement in a career, civic involvement, or both. She is a partner at the law firm Arnett, Draper & Hagood.

Adam Ritchie ’03 (NEW) owns Adam Ritchie Brand Direction, which became the most winning agency in the country at the Public Relations Society of America’s 2018 Anvil Awards, sweeping the communications industry’s most iconic honor in four separate categories. The agency won four Silver Anvil Awards in Marketing for Consumer Products: Packaged Goods; Marketing for Consumer Products: Food & Beverage; Integrated Communications for Consumer Products: Food and Beverage; and Most Effective Shoestring Campaign: Business. At the PRWeek Awards, the firm won Best in Creative Excellence and Best in Arts, Entertainment, Sports, and Media. At the Holmes Report Innovation and Insights SABRE Awards, it was a winner in Brand Content and Creativity. And at the American Business Awards, the firm was presented with PR Innovation of the Year. The wins contribute to more than 40 distinctions received by Adam Ritchie Brand Direction this year.

Gregory Lettieri ’04 (FALK) is cofounder and CEO of Recycle Tree Systems (RTS), an environmentally focused waste and recycling management company based in New York City that is the exclusive environmental services provider to the New York Mets. He threw out the ceremonial first pitch when the Mets hosted the Washington Nationals on April 17, an honor in advance of Earth Day on April 22.

Stephanie Young ’04 (A&S/MAX), a history teacher at Foxcroft School in Middleburg, Va., received the school’s Mary Louise Leipheimer Excellence in Teaching Award in May.

Loren Knaster ’05 (A&S/NEW) is vice president at RMB Capital, an investment and advisory firm in Denver. He is also a volunteer with the Allied Jewish Federation of Denver and Jefferson County Mediation Services.

Linda Parry Murphy G’05 (NEW), L’06 (LAW), CEO of Product Launchers in Westchester, N.Y., was named Entrepreneur of the Year in advertising, marketing, and public relations, winning a Gold Stevie Award at the 16th Annual American Business Awards in June.

Marc Valerio ’05 (WSM) is a partner at The Bonadio Group in the accountancy firm’s Rochester, N.Y., office.

Kevin DePodwin G’06 (MAX) launched Table to Farm Tours, an agrotourism venture in the Catskills region (N.Y.) that he owns and operates with Lindsay Barton. With a focus on local food and the area’s rich farming tradition, the tours feature visits to farms and producers, from creameries and tea blenders to vegetable farms and distilleries. (www.tabletofarmtours.com)

Joy Keller G’06 (EDU), an elementary school teacher with 15 years of experience, wrote Monster Trucks (Macmillan, 2017), her debut picture book. Her next book, Miss Turie’s Magic Creatures will be released in the fall.

Lori Ann King G’07 (IST), a writer, speaker, blogger, certified sports nutritionist, athlete, and wellness coach, wrote Come Back Strong: Balanced Wellness after Surgical Menopause (Gunnison Press, 2017).

Peter Mishler G’07 (A&S), G’08 (EDU) wrote Fluddle (Sarabande Books), his debut poetry collection. Selected by Dean Young as winner of the Kathryn A. Morton Prize in Poetry, the collection draws on William Blake’s Songs of Innocence and of Experience to “critique and dismantle contemporary American values and conditioning.”

Iain Haley Pollock G’07 (A&S) wrote Ghost, Like a Place (Alice James Books), a poetry collection that “highlights the complexities of fatherhood and of raising young kids while bearing witness to the charged movements against social injustice and the inequities of race in America.” He teaches English at Rye Country Day School in Rye, N.Y., and is a member of the poetry faculty at the Solstice MFA Program of Pine Manor College in Boston.

Lauren Rugani ’07 (A&S) is head of communications at Rigetti Computing in Berkeley, Calif.

Larry Seamsans G’07 (NEW) is president of Family Aid Boston, the leading provider of solutions to family homelessness in the Greater Boston area. He also serves on the leadership committee for the City of Boston’s Action Plan to End Veteran and Chronic Homelessness and leads a city-wide committee to prevent homelessness through coordinated shelter triage.

Nicole Schuster ’07 (ARC) is an associate principal at Ashley McGraw Architects in Syracuse.

Angela Tucciaroni ’07 (A&S/NEW) is vice president, global communications, at Duff & Phelps, a financial services firm in New York City.

Jason Evans ’08 (ARC) is an associate principal at Ashley McGraw Architects in Syracuse.

Adam Gaffey G’08 (VPA) is an assistant professor of communication studies at Winona State University.
Melanie Hicken ’09 (A&S/MAX/New) is an award-winning investigative journalist with CNN, co-wrote with CNN colleague Blake Ellis, A Deal with the Devil: The Dark and Twisted True Story of One of the Biggest Cons in History (Atria Books). The book focuses on psychic Maria Duval, whose alleged decades-long mail fraud scam raked in more than $200 million while victimizing millions.

James Tooley ’09 (A&S) is the district manager of Biosciences East at ThermoFisher Scientific, a global company headquartered in Waltham, Mass.

IN MEMORIAM

Ashley Hallenbeck ’10 (VPA) is an architectural designer at Clark Patterson Lee, a design firm in Albany.

Joseph Kaifala G’10 (MAX), founder of the Jeneva Project in Sierra Leone and cofounder of the Sierra Leone Memory Project, wrote Adamaului: A Survivor’s Journey from Civil Wars in Africa to Life in America (Turner Publishing), a memoir.

K.J. Rawson G’10 (A&S) is an associate professor at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., whose research interests include composition, rhetoric, digital media, feminism and queer theory, and LGBT studies. In 2016, he founded and created the award-winning Digital Transgender Archive, a publicly available database for transgender history. Part of the Holy Cross faculty since 2012, he is a member of Outfront: A GLBT Alliance of Faculty and Staff and the Academic Governance Council.

Chris Shepherd ’10 (NEW) is a senior producer at WPBF 25 News in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.


Kristin Warner ’12 (A&S/MAX/NEW), L’16 (LAW) is an attorney in the property department of the Rochester, N.Y., office of law firm Bond, Schoeneck & King. She represents clients in all aspects of commercial real estate matters.

Allyssa Kaiser ’13 (NEW) is a senior digital manager at Bowlero Corporation, a ten-pin bowling center operator with 300 locations throughout the United States.

Lyric Lewis ’13 (VPA) stars in the NBC comedy series A.P. Bio as the outspoken, strong-willed, and hustling history teacher Stef. She also recurs on FX Networks’ Basket and has been a part of Fox’s Brooklyn Nine-Nine, Comedy Central’s Drunk History, the Netflix feature Girlfriend’s Day, and the CW reboot of Mod TV. In addition, she is a member of The Groupings main company and performs regularly in the Los Angeles area.

Lee Redeye ’13 (A&S/MAX) is an associate with the Buffalo office of the law firm Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman. A member of the Seneca Nation, Redeye focuses his practice on Indian law and general litigation matters. He earned a J.D. degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law.

Kamrooz Parchamazad G’13 (ECS) is an engineer II at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., working on project formulation, independent assessment, and cost engineering of space missions.

Flose Boursiquot ’14 (A&S/NEW), a Florida-based writer and spoken work artist, had her poetry and activism, along with video and images, highlighted on Assembly, a new digital platform created by the Malala Fund (assembly.malala.org), the global nonprofit of Nobel Laureate Malala Yousafzai. Boursiquot was inspired by Malala to write her poem “March on Sister,” which is included in her first collection of poetry, Close Your Eyes, Now Breathe (CreateSpace, 2017). She is also the author of Loudmouth (CreateSpace, 2018).

Malik McPherson ’15 (VPA) and six fellow Setnor School of Music alumni started a band, Malik and the Loved Ones. They had their first show in January in Los Angeles.

Jourdan Bennett-Begaye G’16 (NEW) is a staff reporter/producer for Indian Country Today.

Alli Scholl G’16 (NEW) is a public relations account manager at the Syracuse office of Pinckney Hugo Group, a marketing communications firm.

David L. Jackson ’17 (A&S/MAX), an author, motivational speaker, and teacher, wrote Untitled: Welcome to My Mind (CreateSpace), an exploration of the origins of identity.

Olivia Messineo ’17 (A&S/MAX) is an account executive for driver and team marketing at NASCAR. As a graduate student in the sports management program at SUNY Cortland, she was selected to participate in the NASCAR Diversity Internship Program, a competitive 10-week paid internship that provides a select group of students across the country with hands-on experience in the motorsports industry.

Irene K. Kabunduh L’18 (LAW) is an associate attorney in the Syracuse law office of Bousquet Holstein, focusing her practice on trusts and estates, business transactions, and litigation.

NOTICES OF DEATHS MUST BE ACCOMPANYED BY A COPY OF AN OBITUARY OR MEMORIAL CARD.

Send to: Alumni Editor, Syracuse University Magazine; 820 Comstock Avenue, Room 308; Syracuse, NY 13244-5040.

1931 Madelyn Stevens Campbell
1934 Virginia Day Hoag ’36
William E. Night ’37 Gertrude Hawley
Lasher Hawley, Frederick Hoyt Potter, Mildred E. Schmidt ’38
Doris Allen Darrone, Newell A. Rozelle, Katharine Ford Stafford, George T. Turner ’39 James Crowley, Richard C. Earl, Robert D. Grant, Phyllis Kidwell Kogelschatz, Jane Lewis Taylor, Albert Travostino, Barbara Yeoman Verdiani, Donald A. Wilber
Ethel Drachler Berens, James L. Friedman, Winfred McNamar Gates, Howard L. Heim, Frances Hawkins McConnell, Robert G. Muller, George B. Nicholson, Marjorie Hinners O’Byrne ’42
Mary Vescera Andriello, Kenneth A.D. Beehner, Elizabeth Rood Booth, Bette Davis Glickman, Elizabeth Woodruff Hutchinson, Raymond C. Miner, Robert S. Pascall, Clara Rosa Ramsden, Virginia Kastner Rasor ’43
Henry W. Bartholomay, Shirley Watson Buecheler, Susan Place Duncan, Catherine Petrie Kenna, Hope McEldowney Kobak, Gene Yehle McCarthy, Constance Connell McNeily, Melaina Mowchan Rogers, Gloria Murray Royer, Lucille Hendrickson Schlick, Jean Rasbach Scholet, Beverly Downey Sprau, Ardyce Partelow Walters ’45
Where there’s a will, there’s a way.

DeAndrea Russell has pursued three different careers—so far. And whether it was as a social worker, a prospect researcher for national nonprofits, or a human resources professional, she found that her employers always recognized the value of her Syracuse University degree. In gratitude, Russell has named the University as a beneficiary of her estate through her will—a gift that will have a major impact on students in financial need.

You can make an impact, too.

A bequest or other type of gift that matures in the future—no matter its size—has endless potential to support students’ educational dreams. Whether you give cash, securities, real estate, business partnership interests, retirement assets, or life insurance, you can truly make all the difference in students’ lives.

To create your personal Syracuse University gift plan, call 888.352.9535 or email giftplan@syr.edu. If you have the will to make an impact, we have a way.
Orange in the Family

By Steven Handler ’88

From grades seven through 12, I attended The Rivers School in Weston, Massachusetts—then a small, all-boys school with a strictly enforced dress code. Having that experience, I wanted the complete opposite when the time came to look at colleges: a large university with a lot of school spirit, a thriving Greek system, successful sports teams, and a place where I could meet new people every day. I couldn’t be happier with my decision to attend Syracuse University.

I have so many terrific memories, starting when I pulled up at Sadler Hall with my parents in the family station wagon and was met by the Goon Squad. To this day, I’m very good friends with my freshman roommate, David Lambert. We’ve never lost touch, and it’s nice to see our wives and children forming their own friendships.

Among my most memorable experiences, my first football game in the Carrier Dome was pretty exciting: Syracuse vs. No. 1 ranked University of Nebraska. SU won, 17-9, and when we rushed onto the field, I remember thinking, “this place is awesome!” I traveled to New Orleans for the NCAA Final Four in 1987 and witnessed the devastating loss to Indiana in the championship game. My favorite road trip was to Ann Arbor for the SU/Michigan basketball game, when five of us drove until 1 a.m. and spent the night in a basement reading room at the law library.

The richness of my experience extended beyond the thrill of SU sports. The School of Management had a variety of classes and majors relevant to my future, which I found interesting and stimulating. I wanted to get into the family business, and after earning my bachelor’s degree in finance, I started work at Beacon Realty Properties LLC in Boston, a company my father established in 1959.

When my father said I’d be working with him, I thought I’d immediately have a spacious desk with a nameplate, overlooking Newbury Street. Was I wrong! Instead, I started work as a laborer at a commercial building site. All summer long, I hammered, carried, lifted and learned valuable business lessons. This truly humbling experience reinforced the importance of hard work, responsibility and commitment.

More than 30 years later, I’m vice president of the company, and I have three children. My wife, Wendy, and I were elated when Kayla, our youngest, said she wanted to apply early decision to SU. We looked at other schools, but the opportunities and connections at SU seemed far superior to any other place she considered.

I’m so happy Kayla is on campus. I look forward to phone calls between classes when she wants to know the fastest way to the Physics Building, or explaining to her that calling the Hall of Languages ‘HOL’ is much cooler. She’s enrolled in the School of Education, and I’m excited for her to have her own experiences and memories, make new friends and be successful in whatever major she chooses.

Kayla’s presence at SU also renewed my interest in University programming and giving back, and I was honored to join the Boston Regional Council. In May, we partnered with SU’s Office of Career Services to host a weeklong immersion program that brought current students to Boston for a variety of site visits and networking. As a result, I had an SU student intern for the summer and greatly enjoyed teaching him about real estate development and property management.

Each experience makes my connection to SU even stronger, and I look forward to rolling up my sleeves, volunteering and supporting the University as best I can.

Handler is a 1988 graduate and member of Syracuse University’s Boston Regional Council.
Melanie Gray L’81

Passion for Law and Philanthropy

Perry Mason’s courtroom wizardry captivated Melanie Gray L’81 so much that she decided at age 7 to become a lawyer. She wasn’t shy about sharing her intentions, and dismissive reactions only strengthened her resolve. That determination, combined with hard work and a personable approach, eventually led her from her rural hometown of Parish, New York, to the booming metropolis of Houston, Texas, where she’s built a reputation as a highly respected lawyer specializing in complex commercial and bankruptcy litigation over three decades. “I don’t give up easily,” says Gray, a Syracuse University Life Trustee and graduate of the College of Law.

A partner at Winston & Strawn since 2013 and chair of the firm’s bankruptcy litigation practice, Gray manages large teams of attorneys in proceedings. She’s handled cases for clients like American Airlines and General Motors, and served as a lead attorney representing Enron in its high-profile Chapter 11 bankruptcy. For Gray, working on a case is like piecing together a puzzle. She enjoys building relationships, negotiating and calling on her creativity for courtroom maneuvering. “You’re the director and actor, and you write the script,” she says. “Basically, you decide how you think your arguments or positions are best laid out, so it takes significant communication skills and is a very creative process.”

Gray, who is widely published and a frequent speaker, also takes pride in affording young team members opportunities like she had early in her career and helping them succeed. “It’s my style of management and leadership to be very inclusive and acknowledge the efforts and successes of the team members,” she says. “As I say when I’m recruiting law students to the firm, ‘I take my work seriously, but I don’t take myself seriously.’”

Gray is active—and often honored—in the legal community, including serving on the board of the Houston Bar Foundation and being named a fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America. In 2010, she was recognized as one of Texas’s Most Powerful Women by the Texas Diversity Council.

For all of her success, Gray maintains a selfless attitude. Like many women, she juggled a high-pressure job with raising three children (son William ’11 is a College of Visual and Performing Arts graduate). And she and her husband, attorney Mark Wawro, are dedicated philanthropists. Gray focuses her giving on education, women’s health and reproductive rights, and the arts. She holds leadership positions with Houston’s Society for the Performing Arts, the Greater Houston Community Foundation, and Girls Inc., and is a trustee of Baylor College of Medicine.

“You decide how you think your arguments or positions are best laid out, so it takes significant communication skills and is a very creative process.”

She also hasn’t forgotten the impact of her Syracuse law education, remembering the rigors of Syracuse Law Review, faculty who set high standards with their research, writing and teaching skills, and how the experience affirmed her belief in herself. Gray has supported scholarships, became a University Trustee in 2005, co-chaired the $1 billion Campaign for Syracuse, serves on the current campaign committee and is a longtime member of the Board of Advisors at the College of Law, where a ceremonial courtroom in Dineen Hall bears her name. She’s hosted the Houston Alumni Club’s sendoff party for incoming students for more than two decades—an event she describes as “great fun.”

Gray knows what it’s like to be the first in a family to benefit from higher education and where it can take a person—and she sees giving back as a way to lift lives to new heights. “Philanthropy is so important to me because I’ve been provided with so many opportunities,” she says. “I never in my wildest dreams thought I’d be living the life I’m living.” —Jay Cox
Bob Lord ’85

Driving Transformational Change

IBM Chief Digital Officer Bob Lord ’85 wants to change how the world handles natural disasters in a big way.

With Lord’s direction, this year founding partner IBM and creator David Clark Cause, together with charitable partners United Nations Human Rights and the American Red Cross, launched the Call for Code Global Challenge, a $30 million, five-year initiative that shares IBM technologies with student developers and the open-source community. The goal? To create innovative solutions that will improve disaster preparedness and relief.

“So far, the competition has attracted more than 100,000 developers from 156 nations. Syracuse, one of 15 universities selected for the challenge, hosted a two-day hackathon in September for students and community members. During a Family Weekend visit with students at the Blackstone LaunchPad in Bird Library, Lord fielded questions and reflected on his career. “How we can use technology to solve some of the most pressing societal issues in the world has never been done at this scale,” he told the students. “The developers of today are like the civil engineers of the industrial age. You’re fundamentally changing the fabric of the world, so with Call for Code, you start thinking about societal changes.”

Lord calls himself a “transformation junkie.” Years ago, he recognized technology’s powerful role in business strategy and has been challenging the status quo, championing innovation, and driving change ever since. He advised students to get professional experience through internships or coops, learn what kind of work they like or don’t like, and capitalize on SU resources and networking opportunities. “There aren’t a lot of [startup] launchpads at universities, so this was a perfect place for us to come, especially since there’s a multidisciplinary approach,” he said. “You are lucky, having that experience now, because it’s what really drives business in the world.”

As an industrial and operations research engineering major in the College of Engineering and Computer Science, Lord was introduced to programming. “It took you all semester to write a program in APL that could print a bunch of words,” he said. “Today you can do that in 30 seconds.” He took advantage of a coop program, working as a factory floor manager with a General Motors division in Lockport, New York. He also met his wife, Robin ’85, on campus and their Orange bond strengthened with daughters Emily ’16 (a Falk College graduate) and Paige ’20 (a current Falk student). After graduation, Lord landed an engineering job installing robots on the production line at Corning Glass Works Inc. With the company’s sponsorship, he earned an M.B.A. at Harvard, then pivoted into the marketing world and built his executive experience. As the world became increasingly interconnected and disruptive technologies emerged, he championed groundbreaking digital experiences—and eventually became global CEO of Razorfish, one of the world’s first digital marketing agencies, and then served as president of AOL.

Lord loves the challenge of leading businesses into new realms and tackled the issue in Converge: Transforming Business at the Intersection of Marketing and Technology (John Wiley & Sons, 2013). When he joined IBM in 2016 as its first ever chief digital officer, he weathered jokes about “redoing the website” and focused on helping guide the global giant on its transformation journey in the cognitive era of computing, which features artificial intelligence, blockchain, quantum computing and machine learning among its attributes. Lord also has strongly advocated for his belief that technology should be shared for the benefit of society. “We have a mission in my group—Unleash IBM to empower the world,” he said. “Those words have not changed since my first month there.” —Jay Cox
Republican Convention Ousts Senator McCarthy

By Harold Lieberman G'57

OK, so it was the mock Republican National Convention held at Syracuse University in March 1952. In those days, many colleges held mock political conventions that attracted the attention of real political candidates. After all, good publicity is welcome from almost any source. SU’s convention was no exception, so the game was on!

As a doctoral student in the Maxwell School, I applied to be the convention chairman since I’d had excellent training in parliamentary procedure as an undergraduate at the University of Toledo. In addition, I had experienced the 1948 mock convention at Oberlin College (site of the first mock convention in 1860). So my credentials were good enough for me to be named chairman.

Over a long weekend, students volunteered to be delegates and several political science classes were folded in en masse as a class experience. There were about 1,200 delegates, and the event was covered by several newspapers and televised by a local station. All students pretended to be Republicans, whether they really were or not.

As things got underway, it was clear that some real candidates had taken an interest in the goings-on. For example, the real Eisenhower forces funded the mock Eisenhower forces so they could hire a small band. As the first day’s proceedings ended, the head of the Taft delegation approached me. He was Ben Wechsler, nephew of James Wechsler, liberal editor of the New York Post. He asked what I would do if a motion to read Senator Joseph McCarthy out of the party was presented. (The Wisconsin senator had yet to be censured by the Senate.) At first, I laughed, thinking it couldn’t be done, but saw he was serious and said I’d let him know.

That evening I dug through Robert’s Rules of Order. Finally, I found a provision that members can be disciplined, even to expulsion, for offenses such as “tending to injure the good name of the organization, disturb its well-being, or hamper it in its work.” That seemed appropriate to me, so I called Ben and the next day he presented his motion for expulsion. I pretended to consider the question as one of privilege, then declared the motion in order and open for debate. The measure soon passed overwhelmingly and we resumed our regular agenda.

Later, a paper came my way saying a telegram was being sent to Senator McCarthy that read something like this: “You may be interested in the following motion passed today by the mock Republican National Convention in assembly at Syracuse University: ‘Because of repeated behavior which casts the Republican Party in a highly unfavorable light, injures its good name, and violates the democratic principles of the Party, Senator Joseph McCarthy is hereby expelled from the Party.’” I laughed and passed the paper along.

What I didn’t know were two things: The telegram was signed with my name as chairman of the convention; and McCarthy was suing the Syracuse Post-Standard for $500,000 for libel—with the case’s preliminary hearing scheduled in Syracuse for the very Monday after the convention weekend! I found this out when SU’s vice chancellor called and told me to be ready for a possible subpoena. It seems that McCarthy’s agent was in town for the hearing and thought the newspaper had a hand in the convention’s action, which, of course, wasn’t true. I waited to be called to testify, but the call never came. That ended the whole episode.

Oh, yes. Whom did the convention finally pick as its candidate for the 1952 election? The Eisenhower forces had over-reached in their efforts and sentiment moved in another direction—to Governor Earl Warren of California.

Harold Lieberman is professor emeritus of interdisciplinary studies at St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, Minnesota. He received his doctor of social science degree in June 1957, when Senator John F. Kennedy was the University’s Commencement speaker.
Barbara Giacino ’18

It’s Never Too Late to Graduate

Barbara “Bobbie” Giacino ’18 recently finished something she started—66 years ago. Giacino attended SU from 1952 to 1955 through a Citizenship Scholarship awarded by the Maxwell School of Citizenship. “I was well aware at the time that Chancellor Tolley was instrumental in establishing the Maxwell School,” said Giacino. “I was very grateful to have been chosen and given the opportunity to attend Syracuse University.”

Giacino was scheduled to graduate in 1956 with the goal of becoming a physical education teacher. “Well, as one did back in the ’50s, I met my husband at school and we married before I graduated,” said Giacino. “It was always my goal to return to Syracuse University and earn my degree. Of course, life takes over—children come along, you’re working, and before you know it, you’re 84!” But when University College reached out to her and she learned she could finish her degree, she decided it wasn’t too late.

Giacino believes there’s an emotional benefit to finishing what she started. “I’ve always had SU in my heart, and so, at age 84, with the amazing help of UC academic advisor Janine Jarvis, I completed my studies and couldn’t be more proud to be the Orange (wo)man I am today.”

University College’s mission is to provide exceptional support to a diverse part-time student population seeking a Syracuse University degree. Jarvis investigated and found that Giacino, who lives in Salem, Oregon, was only three credits short of receiving an associate’s degree. So this summer, Giacino attended Oregon State University to take a required general science class. The transcript was forwarded to Syracuse, and University College certified that the course would be accepted to fulfill the requirements for her degree.

Over her working years, Giacino took courses to qualify for provisional certification to teach physical education, following in her parents’ footsteps. Giacino now works as a fitness trainer at a gym two days a week and volunteers at the American Diabetes Association three days a week.

Giacino said she has many wonderful memories of her years at Syracuse University. “I met the love of my life at SU and learned so much of what I needed for my career at SU. Best of all, the Maxwell School taught me how to be a good citizen. I have SU to thank for all the good that’s come into my life.”

On October 9, Giacino, her son and son-in-law visited the campus that holds such fond memories. She met with University College staff to thank them for helping her complete her goal, and took a tour while sharing stories of what campus life was like in the ’50s. She also had the opportunity to meet with Provost Michele Wheatley, who offered her congratulations.

Giacino said she has orange running through her veins. “I spend every winter, to this day, cheering on the Syracuse University basketball team while wearing my big ol’ Syracuse hat,” she said. “And I admit, I do yell at the television screen. Go ’Cuse!” —Eileen Jevis
We want to hear from you!

**Coming in early 2019:** Syracuse University’s first-ever all-alumni survey! Look for it in your inbox.

As plans for everything from tailgates to our Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2020 take shape, the Office of Alumni Engagement wants your feedback. How do you connect with SU? By attending game watches and other social events? Seeking educational and professional development opportunities? Mentoring current students? Your insights will help determine future programming, so keep an eye out for the survey.

**Thank you in advance for participating!**