

PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS FOR THE SUNY OSWEGO COMMUNITY

Advocate, producer Kilpatrick to speak

George Kilpatrick, a community advocate and WCNY-TV host/producer, will be the featured speaker during December Commencement on Saturday, Dec. 20.

The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. in the Campus Center arena and convocation hall. Those unable to make it to December Commencement can view a live Webcast

What: December Commencement
When: 10 a.m. Dec. 20
Where: Campus Center arena and Webcast live
Who: December candidates for graduation, faculty, family, friends

accessible from a link on the college's home page, www.oswego.edu, the day of the event.

Kilpatrick aims to uplift his audiences and inspire them to achieve their own measure of success. As director of community affairs at WCNY, he produces and co-hosts "Hour CNY," one of the longest-running local talk shows in Upstate New York. His daily "Food for Thought" program mixes conversation and culinary arts.

He created, hosts and produces "Access with George Kilpatrick," which provides a forum for underrepresented voices. He also produces WCNY's prime-time award-winning public affairs show "Central Issues."

His WCNY-produced documentary "Facing AIDS and HIV in Central New York" earned a national Silver Telly Award and the New York State Department of Health Commissioners Distinguished Service Award. His seven-part series "Facing Racism: A Special Access with George Kilpatrick" earned the 2005 Award for Outstanding Contribution from the Human Rights Commission.

He also spreads his message of community via radio as producer and host of "The George Kilpatrick Show" and host of "Dr. On-Call" on WSYR AM 570, as well as "New Inspiration for the Nation" on WPHR-FM, where he talks to nationally recognized role models in the African-American community. □



Initiative announced

President Deborah F. Stanley announces the college's new "Course-to-Connect" initiative at Thursday's grand opening of the Metro Center in downtown Syracuse. Under the initiative, any Central New York resident who earns a bachelor's degree in 2009 will have an opportunity to take one three-credit course, tuition-free on a space-available basis, this summer at the Metro Center. "The proposal offers an alternative approach to the sweeping, across-the-board spending cuts and corrosive investment of state dollars in public higher education," Stanley said. "The Course-to-Connect initiative boldly invests in Central New York by growing our knowledge-based, high-technology economy and helping to meet the region's need for affordable, reputable and conveniently delivered graduate and continuing education." A large turnout for the Metro Center's opening included Syracuse area business people and elected officials as well as Oswego alumni, students, faculty and staff.

TAP hike expected to help meet tuition increase

While students face a tuition increase of \$310 for the spring semester, many of them also will see a bump in Tuition Assistance Program funding to meet the rise.

"Roughly two-thirds of our TAP recipients will receive a TAP increase to cover the tuition increase in the spring," which amounts to about 40 percent of the full-time undergraduate population, said Mark Humbert, director of financial aid at Oswego.

With the mid-year tuition hike, the state's Higher Education Services Corporation is recalculating 2008-09 Tuition Assistance Program awards for Oswego students receiving this type of aid.

In raw figures, 3,822 Oswego students receive TAP funds. The 1,392 who receive the minimum award (\$500) should not expect an increase in aid, but the 2,430 students who receive between \$501 and the maximum award of full tuition should have the tuition rise covered by the TAP award increase, Humbert said.

SUNY has already told colleges to bill at the higher tuition rate, Humbert said, and students should be notified of increased aid within the next few weeks, certainly before their bills are due.

"We'll send students an e-mail saying their awards have been increased, and HESC should notify them as well," Humbert said. Once HESC makes the awards available, which is expected by the end of this semester, the modifications should be reflected on bills as seen through myOswego, he added.

The anticipated year-round full-time in-state undergraduate tuition of \$4,970 starting in fall 2009 would remain under the maximum TAP award of \$5,000.

TAP is one of the most generous need-based financial aid programs in the nation, with more than 123,000 SUNY students statewide receiving \$260 million in 2007, SUNY officials said.

TAP comprises only part of the more than \$66 million in need- and merit-based aid awarded to SUNY Oswego students every year. Other sources of financial aid include such merit-based support as Presidential Scholarships and Oswego Foundation Scholarships and need-based federal Pell Grants and a variety of student-loan packages.

SUNY has increased tuition only once in the past 13 years, when it rose \$950 in 2003.

"Ultimately, what's important is that we help stu-

See 'Tandem tuition, TAP hikes,' page 3



Presenting research — Senior biology major Zachary Zebrowski (right) explains his research to Andrew Smiler of the psychology faculty during the third annual Sigma Xi student poster conference on Dec. 2. His poster was titled "A Proteomic Comparison of Motile and Non-motile *Flavobacterium johnsoniae* Strains." Sigma Xi is the international scientific honor society that sponsored the College Hour event.

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College trends

Contingents widespread

“A new report offers some hard data on how often undergraduates at the nation’s public colleges and universities take courses taught by contingent faculty members, those who are neither tenured nor on the tenure track. Such faculty members, most of whom work part time, teach nearly 49 percent of the more than 1.5 million undergraduate courses offered at public community colleges and four-year comprehensive and research institutions each term, according to the report, . . . released . . . by the American Federation of Teachers.”

— *Academe Today, The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Dec. 3, 2008

Women lead in doctorates

“Last year, for the first time ever, women earned more doctorates than men in every racial and ethnic group, according to a new National Science Foundation paper offering selected findings from the federal government’s annual Survey of Earned Doctorates. . . . The selected results that the NSF has chosen to release show that the number of doctorates granted by American institutions rose by 5.4 percent — to 48,079, the highest number ever reported — from 2006 to 2007. All science fields except chemistry and psychology awarded record numbers of doctorates in 2007. The number of doctorates conferred in the humanities dropped by 4.6 percent from 2006 to 2007, while the number of doctorates in education rose by 5 percent, reversing a recent decline.”

— News Blog, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Nov. 24, 2008

Economy boosts graduate schools

“This year’s graduate school applications are anticipated to reach record levels as a result of the economic slowdown. In light of widespread layoffs and a tightened job market, professionals and undergraduate students alike are opting to enroll in graduate school instead of risk that classic resume blemish—a period of unemployment or underemployment. Prospective graduate students are especially attracted to the idea of emerging from programs poised to enter stabilizing industries with bolstered credentials. Given the economic climate, graduate schools (both traditional and online) must recognize this new type of applicant and adjust student prospecting efforts accordingly to meet their unique needs.”

— *Pulse, Education Dynamics*, Nov. 26, 2008

Economy boosts public colleges

“As a sagging economy has made students increasingly cost-conscious, ‘niche colleges’ may fall behind in the higher-education horse race, says a communications firm that released the results of a survey on Tuesday. Carnegie Communications conducted an online poll of 860 high-school students nationwide in August. It found that niche colleges—namely women’s, historically black, and Catholic colleges and universities—were much less popular choices than their public and private counterparts, a difference that could be exacerbated by a continued economic downturn, said Debbie Godfrey, a researcher with the Massachusetts-based company. . . . With cost concerns driving more students to public institutions, Ms. Godfrey said, private institutions outside the niche categories and niche colleges will have to compete for students still willing to pay higher fees—a battle that she said those private institutions are more likely to win because they are perceived to have stronger academic programs and a more diverse campus life. According to the survey, nearly 90 percent of all high-school students who plan to go to college said they would be very likely to apply to public four-year institutions.”

— *Academe Today, The Chronicle of Higher Education*, Nov. 26, 2008



Sending support

Students Eric Roberson, Jessica Raghunanan and Tiffany Raghunanan write notes of support for junior Angel Moreno at last week’s vigil for the hospitalized student. Moreno was critically injured in a 3 a.m. fight Nov. 9 in downtown Oswego and remains in the intensive care unit at Upstate Medical University Hospital in Syracuse. A Fort Drum soldier faces an assault charge in connection with the incident. Bruce Meyer of the college’s Counseling Services Center noted Friday that Moreno’s family welcomes visitors at the hospital. “Anything we can do for them would be welcome,” he said. At its Nov. 24 meeting, Faculty Assembly affirmed this statement: “In response to the violent attack against SUNY Oswego student, Angel Moreno, and other similar events within the region, we, the SUNY Oswego Faculty Assembly condemn these acts of violence. It is our position that violence is never the answer to resolving personal differences and conflicts.”

People in action

On Nov. 21, 14 senior technology majors hosted the third annual Youth Technology Day. They were **Meshari Alnouri, Eric Baxter, Caitlin Bowen, Jeremy Croft, Ryan Herman, Joe Merrihew, Tom Morrill, Andrew Popeil, Kelsey Roman, Paul Rotstein, Matt Swanson, Peter Wanamaker, Derick Waters** and **Tim Zeman**. Nineteen students from three area high schools (Mexico, Hannibal and Central Square) who are enrolled in the SUNY Oswego Liberty Partnership program attended. The Liberty Partnership Program, in operation for nearly two decades, is among a few rural programs of its kind in New York state. It links Oswego School of Education students to middle and high school students, helping them have a successful transition to postsecondary education and entry-level careers. Youth Technology Day is an opportunity for technology education majors to design, develop and deliver technological activities to a group of area adolescents. The technology majors taught the high school students 95-minute lessons on editing high dynamic range photos, producing a digital video public service announcement, packaging design, and creative problem solving. During lunch, the technology majors spoke on what it is like to major in technology education and their student organization, Oswego Technology Education Association.

The Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program at Oswego held its annual Day of Service event last month in Hewitt Union. CSTEP scholars participating included **Sherrifa Bailey, Sylvia Chestnut, Alison Clarke, Briseida Cortez, Alicia Grant, Ojoluape Mayungbo, Carol Pinela, Marc Riposo, Renee Sterling, Ruth Vasquez** and **Jalisa Ward**. The event provides information relevant to the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and the licensed professions to secondary school students who are candidates to transition into college. The program partners college students with high school students to expose the high school students to college life. This year, the CSTEP team hosted the Oswego County Academic Youth League competition featuring all nine Oswego County high schools. Jim Petrella, a guidance counselor from Central Square High School and a coach for the OCAY League, and CSTEP/McNair Program Specialist **Magdalena Rivera** coordinated the event.

Tyler Art Gallery will feature original student work in the fall Bachelor of Fine Arts exhibition, on view through Dec. 20. Participation in the exhibition fulfills graduation requirements for the bachelor of fine arts

degree. Participating students include **Ted Casper, Claire Ellsworth, Sara Gotlib, Yaaki Koesterich, Sarah Saraceno, Lindsey Scott, Melissa Schumacher, Brooke Starusnak, Garrett Stetson** and **Megan Williams**. The exhibition runs concurrently with “Growing New Roots,” featuring the master’s thesis work of **Edwin Acevedo** and **Matthew Rogers**.

John Lalonde II, professor of German, was involved in two presentations at the joint annual conference of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and the American Association of Teachers of German, held last month in Orlando, Fla. The first presentation was “Video Conference Project ‘Hands Across the Ocean’ Connects U.S.-German Schools,” while the second was part of the session “Directions and Examples for Culture Learning in the German Language Classroom.”

Thad Mantaro, coordinator of the Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Program, and **Erica Vinson**, graduate assistant at the Lifestyles Center, recently presented a poster at the U.S. Department of Education’s national meeting in St. Paul, Minn. The poster presentation, “BASICS Redux: Effective Strategies for Implementation of BASICS by an External Service Provider” included information on the college’s adjudicated student intervention program BASICS, or Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students. The poster demonstrated the effectiveness of the college’s program, including reductions in levels of alcohol consumption and blood alcohol content-related indicators by students, before and after. It was accepted for presentation at the conference due to the program’s success and the unusual use of an external service provider — County of Oswego Council on Alcoholism and Addictions personnel. Mantaro and Vinson were joined by several campus colleagues at the conference, whose distinct focus this year was “widening the lens of prevention.”

Josh McKeown, director of international education and programs, gave a presentation last month at the NAFSA: Association of International Educators regional conference in Brooklyn. His talk was titled “Is There a First Time Effect? Assessing the Impact of Study Abroad on Your Students.” The presentation was also in support of his forthcoming book on the topic.

Chris Priedemann, a graduate student pursuing
See ‘People in action,’ page 3

December graduates explored unlimited horizons at Oswego

Among the around 600 students eligible to take part in Commencement on Dec. 20, many have taken opportunities to pursue unlimited horizons while at Oswego.

The ceremony will start at 10 a.m. in the Campus Center arena and convocation hall and be Webcast live.

Allegra Anka, earning a bachelor's degree in linguistics, found her world opened by travel, classes and research. The Monroe resident was in the first study-abroad class that went to the African nation of Benin, which she described as "life-altering."

Anka also worked with linguistics faculty members Jean Ann and Bruce Long Peng researching the eastern Kenyan language of Luo. "These experiences have undoubtedly changed the way that I see the world, and myself in it," Anka said.

She plans to find a position teaching English as a second language abroad before starting graduate work. "I want to experience more of the world in a direct way," Anka said.

Kevin Morgan, an adolescence education major from Saratoga Springs, earned six All-American and two Academic All-American honors in diving, but said his biggest improvements may have taken place in the classroom.

Morgan has been student teaching at Oswego Middle School and coached the high school's girls' diving squad. He recently began coaching the boys' divers as well. "Knowing that you're helping kids improve in the sport, you don't really miss competing," he said of transitioning from diving to coaching. "It's a lot of fun and it's amazing to watch kids grow even in the span of 10 weeks."

Morgan plans to pursue a master's in literacy education at Oswego in the summer or fall, and said he would love to stay in the area to continue coaching.

Finance major Ruby Sun came to Oswego from China and blended her interests in business and the arts through internships. She interned at Wufeng Art, a Beijing entertainment company, on financial and accounting work, but also had an opportunity to work as a jazz/funk dance instructor.

This semester, she is interning as an assistant to the president of Shenqi USA in New York City. Her tasks have included scheduling, preparing financial materials, coordinating correspondence and collecting information for reports.

"I plan to work for two years then get an MBA degree because I want to set up my own companies," Sun said. "First I would like to have a fashion design

company. Then I also want to have a professional dance choreography studio because I love dance. It is an important part of my life."

Wellness management major Christopher Church plans to keep learning on two fronts — working toward his master's in criminal justice administration and training to become a helicopter pilot. An EMT and active member of SAVAC, he said he one day hopes to join the aviation unit of the New York State Troopers.

"I learned a great deal academically, but more importantly, I also learned about how to succeed in the real world," Church said. "I was fortunate enough to have had many superb professors that really influenced me, too."

That many students plan to pursue advanced degrees in a tight job market doesn't surprise Bob Casper, director of career services at Oswego.

Some sectors are still hiring, most notably accounting which maintains strong demand, Casper said. Oswego grads were also finding demand in computer science and information science, and out-of-state schools were recruiting Oswego graduates to teach, especially in math, science, languages and technology education. □

— Tim Nekritz

Campus Update readers offer suggestions, praise, criticism

November's survey of *Campus Update* readers among faculty, staff and students revealed overall satisfaction with the contents and frequency of the publication and ambivalence about whether it should go online exclusively.

About half of the 373 respondents were employees and half students. In all, 67.4 percent were either very satisfied or satisfied with the biweekly campus newsletter, with faculty — the publication's top target audience — reporting the most satisfaction (84.1 percent very satisfied or satisfied).

A plurality of 44.8 percent of all respondents, and a majority of faculty and staff respondents, prefer that *Campus Update* continue to be published every other week (26 percent of all respondents suggested weekly and 25 percent suggested monthly).

Print or online?

A smaller plurality of all respondents would like to see *Campus Update* move to an online only publication, 43.4 percent. Nearly half of faculty respondents, however, (49.2 percent) came out against such a move.

"I am overloaded with things that must be done online," wrote one faculty member. "I prefer to have some snail mail to take with me to read when I have time but am not online." A professional staff member commented, "I don't typically read online stuff — I spend enough time reading my monitor."

One student wrote, "I know eliminating the paper version would save paper and be 'green' but I do not have the time to sit at a computer to read the news, and I know that I would feel out of the loop if the physical versions of these news sources were eliminated."

On the other side, a student commented, "If this campus is actually going to 'go green' it needs to put this ONLINE," and a classified staff member wrote, "I don't think enough people read this publication — send it electronically and maybe more people will read it."

Several people had suggestions if the publication were to go online, including RSS feeds, a listserv and interactive features.

One staff member noted that an online format would have to pull readers in: "More sophisticated implementation will be necessary. . . . This means resources invested in staff and technology. Don't push online without understanding that this needs to precede."

Award deadlines right after break

The deadline for nominations for the SUNY Oswego President's and Provost's Awards for Scholarly and Creativity and Research is Jan. 31. The deadline for Student/Faculty Collaborative Challenge Grants is the second Monday in February. More information on both award programs is on the Web site of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. □

Favorite features

All categories of respondents valued *Campus Update*'s front-page news stories the most, with staff also ranking "Announcements" especially high and faculty showing a similar regard for "People in Action." The "Police Report" and "Spotlight" also came in for special praise.

Several commenters said they wanted more updates on construction and renovation work, more on events and more on campus safety, both health and crime related. Several students asked for more on sports and intramurals. A few asked for more subjective and engaging content along the lines of dialogue, op-ed analysis and debate on current issues.

A few called *Campus Update* "propaganda." "The spin is too positive," commented a faculty member. A student wrote, "Seriously, *Campus Update* is just patting SUNY Oswego's own shoulder. If it didn't have this 'we are the awesomest' attitude it would be more fun to read. This way, it just turns me off."

Asked about other sources of campus news, re-

spondents across all categories indicated they turned most often to the *Oswegonian*, followed closely by the homepage and "News & Events" page of the college's Web site. A couple of respondents suggested that *Campus Update* be inserted into the *Oswegonian*.

The Office of Public Affairs conducts periodic surveys of *Campus Update* readers. November's was the first online survey, administered through the Office of Institutional Research.

Campus Update is published biweekly, on paydays, during the fall and spring semesters and monthly during the winter and summer recesses. The staff of the Office of Public Affairs writes and edits the publication with some administrative oversight.

Ideas for stories come from members of the campus community. The "People in Action" feature is made up mostly of self-submissions and departmental submissions. Submissions are welcome to the Office of Public Affairs, in Room 210 of Culkin Hall, and by e-mail at proffice@oswego.edu. □

— Julie Harrison Blissert

New grant program encourages student success

Provost Susan Coultrap-McQuin has awarded grants to three projects under a new program to support class-related initiatives that improve freshman retention and increase student success.

Mary McCune of the history department received funding to increase the connections that students have with each other and the college. Her three-part project includes a "College Bowl" type of competition among students interested in history and history faculty, field trips for first-year students to local historic sites, and beginning a history department blog or Facebook page.

Faculty from each of the departments in the School of Communication, Media and the Arts — Cynthia Clabough, Christine Hirsch, Todd Graber and Mark Cole — were awarded a grant to develop and support

a one-credit course, CMA 101, that will be required of all students in the school. Students will attend course-approved events, such as concerts and lectures, and follow-up discussions about them.

Psychology faculty received funding to redesign Psychology 100, "Principles of Human Behavior." About 850 students a year take the course, which is required of all psychology and education majors and is chosen by many others to fill a General Education requirement. Class sizes range from 19 to 175, and more than 20 percent of students in the course receive grades of D or E. Working on the project will be David Sargent, Stephen Wurst, Gary Klatsky, Rhonda Mandel and Karen Wolford plus Greg Ketcham, assistant director of extended learning.

Grants ranged from \$1,000 to \$1,500. □

People in action

Continued from page 2

initial certification to teach chemistry, received a fellowship from the Knowles Science Teaching Foundation. The fellowship, designed to encourage students to become math and science teachers, provides tuition assistance, monthly stipends, support for school-site mentors, and instructional materials support as well as room, board and travel expenses for fellowship conferences, professional development and membership in a professional organization. "This year is my first year with the Foundation, and it has been amazing," Priedemann wrote.

In Memoriam

J. Richard Pfund, 79, professor emeritus of technology, died Dec. 4. □

Tandem tuition, TAP hikes

Continued from page 1

dents find every avenue available to stay in school, so it's good that TAP will help fill many gaps," Humbert said. "We also think that, even at the projected tuition amount, SUNY represents a real value for students and a worthy investment in their future."

How much of the tuition increase will come back to the campuses to offset proposed cuts has yet to be determined by the state government. □

College community generosity fuels toy drive

Members of the campus community are helping hundreds of local families in need this holiday season through the 21st annual SUNY Oswego Toy Drive.

Trees and wreaths for the drive can be found in Culklin Hall, Hewitt Union, King Alumni Hall, Laker Hall, Mahar Hall, the Parking Office, Penfield Library, Rich Hall and Sheldon Hall. Participants can select a paper ornament with a child's name, gender and age, and leave an unwrapped toy in an adjacent toy drive box. People can also make out checks to "SUNY Oswego Toy Drive" and deliver them to Casey Walpole in the Registrar's Office, Room 301 of Culklin Hall.

A large number of faculty and staff members, coordinated by Marion Green of Penfield Library, spearhead the effort. But Green is also impressed with the work students put into the toy drive.

"The students are very generous in their donations to the toy drive and we are very grateful for their support," she noted. Usually, the drive provides one and a half full truckloads delivered to the Oswego County Department of Social Services, which identifies local children in need.

Many campus efforts

Students in the Oswego Technology Education Association are helping with the drive by making wooden tops for children. OTEA has helped with the drive since 2001. Adviser Tom Kubicki of the technology education faculty said the number of toys made has increased every year.

"In the last eight years we have increased our output from 40 the first to 115 last year and intend to make more than 100 again this year," Kubicki said.

Kubicki started this endeavor his first year as the adviser for OTEA and was joined by co-adviser Dan Tryon three years ago. "OTEA is a co-curricular organization that I feel has a strong obligation to reach out and connect with the community to serve as a model when they are in their professional lives," Kubicki explained.

Those attending Laker men's and women's basketball games on Saturday could receive free admission if they brought a toy for the drive.

In addition, the college's Center for Service Learning and Community Service is working with Oswego BOCES Migrant Education Outreach Program and the Foster Adoptive Parent Association of Oswego County to provide toys for children.

Gifts and cash donations for this effort can be delivered to the Center for Service Learning and Community Service by this week. For more information, contact Alyssa Amyotte at amyotte@oswego.edu or 312-2505. □
— Julie-Jo Stanton

Laker women host Holiday Skate

Members of the campus and community are invited to skate with the Laker women's hockey team, visit with Santa and enjoy hot chocolate and cookies at the Holiday Open Skate on Sunday, Dec. 14, in the Campus Center arena. The event will run from 2 to 4 p.m. The skate shop will open for rentals at 1:45 p.m.

"It's important to give back to the community that supports us all season long, and this holiday skate is a fun way to do just that," said Diane Dillon, the team's coach. "The turnout last year was tremendous so we're hoping we have a great event this year, too."

The Lakers are asking for a \$2 donation per participant. The donation covers the cost of skating as well as rentals for those who need skates. All proceeds support the United Way of Greater Oswego County, with which the Lakers have an ongoing partnership.

For more information, contact Dillon at ddillon@oswego.edu or 312-2880. □

'Spirits of Winter' opens downtown

The exhibition "Spirits of Winter," featuring Oswego art students visually telling stories about the season, will open Thursday at Oswego State Downtown.

A free public reception will run from 6 to 9 p.m. at the store, corner of West First and Bridge streets in Oswego. Attendees can meet the artists, and there will be a storytelling hour from 7 to 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Store hours are Wednesdays from noon to 5 p.m., Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. □

Campus grants fund 10 professors' projects

Ten faculty members have received \$16,707 to fund eight scholarly and creative projects.

The Scholarly and Creative Activities Committee reviewed and rated the fall round of grant proposals, and Provost Susan Coultrap-McQuinn made the awards last week. Awards ranged between \$1,000 and \$3,000.

Two music faculty members received grants, Robert Auler to produce a CD tentatively titled "Cross Currents: Jazz and Vernacular in the Solo Classical Piano," and Eric Schmitz for a foundational performance study of Afro-Caribbean music.

Laura Hess-Brown of the psychology department and Margaret Ryniker of the public justice department joined to propose a winning project on intergenerational attitudes toward adoption.

Two physics faculty members received grants, Adrian Ieta for "Opto-electric Characterization of Aqueous Electrospays" and Carolina Ilie for an investigation of water absorption on polymers.

Gwen Kay of the history department received funding for "Not Just Starch and Cookin'," a study of the transformation of home economics from the 1960s to the 1990s at two institutions in the University of Georgia system, the flagship University of Georgia at Athens and Fort Valley State University, a historically black university.

With their grant, Cynthia Lawniczak and Jeffrey Schneider of the chemistry department will conduct a study of lead arsenate, a chemical widely used as a pesticide before DDT, in the environment around Rice Creek Field Station, which used to be home to apple orchards.

Mark Springston of the technology education department received a grant for his project titled "Publishing Custom Electronic Portfolios to the Internet for Secondary Students." □

Police report

Since Nov. 21, University Police have investigated several cases of vandalism and theft and made nine arrests.

Seven arrests involved driving while intoxicated. Police charged a 30-year-old Oswego woman with DWI, aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle in the third degree, improper turn and refusal to take a breath test. A 19-year-old Seneca Hall resident was charged with DWI, equipment violation-obstructed vision, failure to keep right and refusal to take a breath test.

Five people were charged with DWI and operation of a motor vehicle with a BAC above .08. One of them, an 18-year-old Oswego man, was also charged with driving without a license and speeding. Another, a 36-year-old Oswego man, was also charged with operation of a motor vehicle with no inspections and failure to stop at stop sign.

Police charged two teenage residents of Oneida Hall in separate incidents, one with unlawful possession of marijuana and another with unlawful possession of alcohol. □

Calendar highlights

- College Council meeting, today
- Concert: Jazz Ensemble, today
- Holiday Open Skate, Dec. 14
- Final exams, Dec. 15 to 19
- December Commencement, Dec. 20
- Pathfinder Bank/Oswego Hockey Classic, Jan. 2 and 3
- Winter Session begins, Jan. 5
- New York State Collegiate Wrestling Championship, Jan. 16
- Martin Luther King Day, Jan. 19
- Spring semester classes begin, Jan. 22

For a more complete calendar, see SUNY Oswego Events online at www.oswego.edu/news/calendar/. □

Spotlight

Polak enjoys opportunities to guide future Oswego students

This week's Campus Update Spotlight shines on Lauren Polak. The sophomore public relations major from Liverpool serves as a tour guide for the Admissions Office.

Q. What made you want to come to Oswego?

A. It was definitely the program that drew me in. I looked at Syracuse University's Newhouse School too, but I liked the size of our school. I knew that I'd get to do a lot, and that I'd be a name, not a number. The strength of the program is phenomenal. It was also close to home and my father is an alum.

Q. What is your favorite part of being at Oswego?

A. The sense of community here. There are so many opportunities on campus students can take advantage of. I love my job as a tour guide. It never feels like work when I come in here. I just love the people I work with and the things I get to do.

Q. What do you enjoy the most about being a tour guide?

A. That I can share my experiences with the students. I didn't have a good experience here my first semester. At first I wanted to go home, but I stuck with it and things definitely got better.

Q. What is your impression of other Oswego students?

A. The thing I always notice is that we're all smart. Not a snobby smart, but everyone is real here, they're interesting and they're friendly. I don't think you can find that everywhere.

Q. What are your future plans?

A. I'll probably get a job, hopefully in the Syracuse area, close to home. I may go to graduate school to work in higher ed. This job has opened my eyes to this field, because it's something I never considered before.



Q. Do you have any hobbies?

A. I was a runner in high school and I'm still running. I'm a huge girly-girl and I love shopping. I like to travel. I love beaches. I like to snowboard.

Q. What achievement are you most proud of?

A. Honestly, it would probably be going to college. Other than my dad and a couple of cousins, no one in my family went to college. And just everything I've been able to do here in the past 18 months. Two years ago, I wouldn't have believed it. □